Daily Report

Central Eurasia

FBIS-SOV-94-022
Wednesday
2 February 1994

Daily Report
Central Eurasia

FBIS-SOV-94-022

CONTENTS

2 February 1994

RUSSIA INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Foreign Ministry Spokesman Holds News Briefing 1
'Satisfied' With FRY Report *[ITAR-TASS]* 1
Calls For Negotiated Peace in Afghanistan *[INTERFAX]* 1
Not Satisfied With Mandate on Georgia *[ITAR-TASS]* 1
Views Proposal on Karabakh Conflict *[ITAR-TASS]* 1
Notes 'Positive Changes' in Mideast *[ITAR-TASS]* 2
UN Representative Vorontsov Appointed Ambassador to U.S. *[SEGODNYA 2 Feb]* 2
Popov Denies He Objects to Alliance With United States *[INTERFAX]* 2
U.S. To Supply 'Nearly $30 Million' for CW Destruction *[IZVESTIYA 1 Feb]* 2
Commentary Views U.S. Defense Budget Issues *[Moscow International]* 2
Cosmonaut Comments Before U.S. Space Shuttle Flight *[ITAR-TASS]* 3
Moscow Preparing Talks on Partnership for Peace *[INTERFAX]* 3
NATO Supreme Commander Meets With Defense Chiefs *[ITAR-TASS]* 4
Chernomyrdin Gives News Conference on Italy Trip *[Moscow Radio]* 4
Opposes Air Strikes in Bosnia *[ITAR-TASS]* 4
Kozyrev Discusses Bosnia With Mediators *[ITAR-TASS]* 5
Comments on Zhirinovskiy *[ITAR-TASS]* 5
Bosnia Mediators' Arrival, Zhirinovskiy Remarks Linked *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 2 Feb]* 5
Zhirinovskiy's Visit to Slovenia, Belgrade Reported *[IZVESTIYA 1 Feb]* 6
No Big Changes in Ties With Ukraine, Belarus *[ITAR-TASS]* 6
Russia's Choice Opposes Financial Union With Belarus *[INTERFAX]* 7
Kazakhstan Opposes Russian Military Base at Baykonur *[ITAR-TASS]* 7
Abkhazia Against Georgian-Russian Treaty *[ITAR-TASS]* 7
Chernomyrdin Comments on Eve on Yeltsin Georgia Visit *[ITAR-TASS]* 8
Duma Disapproves of Visit *[Russian TV]* 8
Grachev Leaves for Tbilisi *[ITAR-TASS]* 8
Georgia Special Services Prepare for Visit *[TRUD 2 Feb]* 8
Georgia Mood, Expectations Eyed Ahead of Visit *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 2 Feb]* 8
Adygea Open Letter to Yeltsin Protests Georgia Ties *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 2 Feb]* 9
Army Paper Raises Question of Servicemen in Georgia *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 2 Feb]* 10
Tape of Japanese Fishing Boat Incident at Talks *[ITAR-TASS]* 10
Commentator Hails Kozyrev's Visit to PRC *[Moscow International]* 10

RUSSIA NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Political Issues

Gaydar Says Draft Amnesty Law Disputable *[ITAR-TASS]* 12
Filatov Says Presidential Party To Be Set Up *[ITAR-TASS]* 12
Medvedev Fears Anti-Reform 'Belt' Around Moscow *[ITAR-TASS]* 12
Poltoranin Apologizes for 'Russophobia' Remark *[INTERFAX]* 13
No Response Planned *[ITAR-TASS]* 13
Security Committee Chief Concerned About Yeltsin Edicts *[INTERFAX]* 13
Statute on Operational Questions Commission *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 1 Feb]* 13

Military Issues

Report Says Half of Armed Forces Combat Ready *[MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS 30 Jan]* ... 15
Slavyanka Program Carries Air Force Feature *[Moscow International]* 15
Discrepancies Seen in Armed Forces Strength *[MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS 1 Feb]* 16
Defense Industry Body Discusses Arms Exports *[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 1 Feb]* 16
Audit Exposes Flaws in Military Trading System *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 29 Jan]* 17
Decree on Finance, Backup for Military Justice Organs *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 1 Feb]* 18

Federal Assembly

Rybkin, Yeltsin Discuss Cooperation With State Duma *[ITAR-TASS]* 18
Federation Council Elects Heads of Committees *[Moscow Radio]* 18
Federation Council Members Differ on Crimea *[MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS 1 Feb]* 19
Parliament Will Not Repeat 'Mistakes' on Crimea *[ITAR-TASS]* 19
Federation Chamber Discusses Draft Regulation Amendments *[ITAR-TASS]* 19
Duma Official on Economic Problems, Crime *[Moscow TV]* 19

Regional Affairs

Kozyrev Reassures North Caucasus Leaders *[IZVESTIYA 2 Feb]* 20
Urban Residents Show Trust in Chernomyrdin, Gaydar *[SEGODNYA 1 Feb]* 20
Leningrad Oblast Replaces Village Soviets With Volosts *[NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA 1 Feb]* 21
Ossetian, Ingush Leaders on Aspects of Conflict *[Moscow TV]* 21
Chechens Seek To Free Khasbulatov *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 1 Feb]* 22

UKRAINE

International Affairs

Military Said To Break Tripartite Nuclear Accord *[SEGODNYA 28 Jan]* 23
New Parliament To Consider Ratifying NPT *[INTERFAX]* 23
Official Says Russia Will Deliver Oil, Gas *[HOLOS UKRAYINY 29 Jan]* 23
Official on Result of U.S. Visit, Kozyrev Remark *[INTERFAX]* 24
Delegation's Achievements Reviewed *[UNIAR]* 24
U.S. Firm To Build Nuclear Waste Storage Facilities *[Kiev International]* 24
Zlenko: Russia Not Interested in Playing 'Crimean Card' *[Kiev International]* 25
Views Black Sea Fleet Talks *[INTERFAX]* 25
Plyushch Discusses Nuclear Stance With Scandinavians *[Kiev Radio]* 25

National Affairs

Armed Forces To Be Reduced in 1994 Budget *[UNIAN]* 26
Radetskyy Decreases Number of Generals' Posts *[UNIAN]* 26
Defense Ministry Updates Arms Reductions *[Kiev International]* 26
Defense Minister on Concept of Building Army *[ARMIYA UKRAYINY 26 Jan]* 26
Supreme Council Discusses Budget, Other Issues *[UNIAR]* 28
State Budget Approved *[UNIAR]* 29
President Visits Stock Exchange, Views Planning *[KIEVSKIYE NOVOSTI 28 Jan]* 29
Government Views Border Laws, Free Economic Zones *[Kiev Radio]* 29
Defense Minister Rules Out Conflict in Crimea *[HOLOS UKRAYINY 29 Jan]* 30
Self-Defense Detachments 'on Full Combat Alert' *[UNIAR]* 30
Lukyanenko: Meshkov Goals 'Not Obtainable Without Ukraine' *[Kiev Radio]* 30
Crimea's Meshkov To Meet Kravchuk in Kiev 4 Feb *[ITAR-TASS]* 30
Crimea Parliament Speaker Resigns After Defeat *[NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA 1 Feb]* 30

WESTERN REGION

Belarus

Hryb Promises Supreme Soviet 'Fruitful' Work *[Minsk Radio]* 32
Hryb Promises No Change in Foreign Policy *[Minsk Radio]* 32
Hryb Replaces Shushkevich as Constitutional Chairman *[ITAR-TASS]* 32
Democratic Forces To Resist 'Kebich Dictatorship' *[BELAPAN]* 32
Internal Troops Deny Acting Outside Law *[Minsk Radio]* 33
Talks on Monetary Merger With Russia To Continue *[INTERFAX]* 33
Council of Ministers Affirm Continuity of Reforms *[Minsk Radio]* 33

Moldova

'Dniester Republic' To Block Elections *[ITAR-TASS]* 34
Snegur: Links With Former USSR States 'Vital' *[INTERFAX]* 34
Sangeli Urges Restoring Economic Ties *[INTERFAX]* 34

CENTRAL ASIA

Kazakhstan

Foreign Minister Denies Revising Nuclear-Free Status *[ITAR-TASS]* 35
Roads Minister, Iranian Envoy Discuss Ties *[IRNA]* 35
Nazarbayev on Baykonur, Military Ties With Russia *[INTERFAX]* 35
Newspaper Views Baykonur Cosmodrome's Plight *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 1 Feb]* 36
Over $1 Billion in Foreign Credits Expected *[ITAR-TASS]* 37

Tajikistan

Supreme Council Decree on Government Structure *[Dushanbe Radio]* 37
Supreme Council Issues Decree on Farmers Congress *[Dushanbe Radio]* 37
Premier: No Future for Centralized Management *[INTERFAX]* 38

CAUCASUS

Armenia

Presidential Press Secretary Resigns *[ITAR-TASS]* 39
Parliament Approves Prosecution of Party Candidate *[SNARK]* 39
Economics Minister on 'Tightening the Belt' *[SNARK]* 39
Border Shelling, Fighting in Karabakh Reported *[Yerevan Radio]* 39
Accord Reached With Nakhichevan on Border Security *[ARMENPRES]* 39

Azerbaijan

President Calls on Armenia To End Conflict *[ITAR-TASS]* 40
Russian Offer for Joint Defense Rejected *[Baku TV]* 40
Russian Envoy Returns After Failed Talks *[TURAN]* 40
Attacking Armenian Units Forced To Retreat *[Baku Radio]* 41
Five Killed in Explosion at Baku Train Station *[ITAR-TASS]* 41

Georgia

Differences Seen on Rapprochement With Russia *[IZVESTIYA 2 Feb]* 41
Abkhaz Liberation Union States Demands to Parliament *[IBERIA]* 42
Radio Reports 1 Feb Parliamentary Proceedings *[Tbilisi Radio]* 42
South Ossetia Appeals to Yeltsin for Security Guarantees *[ITAR-TASS]* 43

BALTIC STATES

Estonia

Negotiators Meet With Russians for Talks *[BNS]* 44
Russian-Speaking Assembly Issues Statement Against Racism *[BNS]* 44

Latvia

Prime Minister Interviewed on Return From Davos Forum *[Riga Radio]* 44
Saeima Committee Drafts National Security Law *[BNS]* 44

Lithuania

President: Army Needs Rearming To Meet NATO Standards *[Vilnius Radio]* 45

Foreign Ministry Spokesman Holds News Briefing

'Satisfied' With FRY Report

LD0102151694 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1455 GMT 1 Feb 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondents Boris Krivoshey and Aleksandr Krylovich]

[Text] Moscow February 1 TASS—Russia is satisfied with a report saying the Yugoslav authorities have offered information on their Armed Forces as of January 1, 1994, to CSCE for the first time since disintegration of former Yugoslavia, head of the Russian Foreign Ministry's Information and Press Department Grigoriy Karasin told a briefing here today.

A document circulated by Yugoslav representatives in Vienna says the Yugoslav Army does not plan to deploy additional types of heavy armaments or combat systems on Yugoslav territory in 1994, said the Russian Foreign Ministry's spokesman.

"Information on location of forces and their armaments against the background of the on-going combat operations in Bosnia and Herzegovina testifies to the Yugoslav interest in military security and stability in the region," said Karasin.

Calls For Negotiated Peace in Afghanistan

LD0102155394 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1456 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] Russia calls for a negotiated settlement to the conflict in Afghanistan on the basis of compromise by the Afghans themselves, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said in Moscow on Tuesday [1 February].

Reports from Afghanistan, he said, speak of continuing clashes between different factions. Obviously, not only does the emerging situation run counter to the interests of the Afghan people but poses a real threat to regional security as well, the spokesman said.

The official says Moscow is taking necessary steps within the framework of the UN and during bilateral contacts with states concerned as part of efforts to step up international help towards a political settlement in Afghanistan.

One of the elements of Russia's Afghanistan policy is to try to get Central Asian states involved in multilateral efforts for normalization in that country, the spokesman said. In his words, appropriate consultations are now under way with Uzbekistan.

A series of reports trying to gauge Uzbekistan's actions in connection with the Afghan crisis do not reflect Moscow's official position, the spokesman said.

Not Satisfied With Mandate on Georgia

LD0102163594 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1607 GMT 1 Feb 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondents Boris Krivoshey and Aleksandr Krylovich]

[Text] Moscow February 1 TASS—The Russian Foreign Ministry "is not fully satisfied" with the content of yesterday's resolution of the U.N. Security Council to prolong the U.N. observer mission mandate in Georgia, head of the Russian Foreign Ministry's information and press department Grigoriy Karasin told a briefing here today.

In the opinion of the Russian side, the mere prolongation of the mission mandate "can hardly be viewed as an adequate answer to the moderate but real progress achieved at Geneva negotiations in December 1993 and January 1994, repeated requests of the Georgian and Abkhazian side to send peace-makers to the conflict zone, and the real situation in the region."

Karasin expressed regret with the "lack of worthy response to Russian proposals of a genuine peace-making operation in Abkhazia". Further delay in such decision objectively confirms the current status quo—isolation of Abkhazia and Georgia—and freezes the soonest and safe return of refugees, which is a key humanitarian and political problem.

In the opinion of the Russian diplomat, this policy reduces chances for an agreement on political status of Abkhazia and increases the risk of a new bloodshed as result of spontaneous actions of refugees and displaced persons, whose number has reached 200,000 in the conflict zone. Karasin believes this reality should be foreseen.

"We are convinced that the introduction of peace-makers in the conflict zone is the only chance to achieve regional stabilization and create a real basis for final political settlement of the conflict, including the establishment of a political status of Abkhazia," he said.

In the opinion of the Russian Foreign Ministry, the mere beginning of a peace-making operation throughout Abkhazia by U.N. forces or other peace-makers authorized by the United Nations may create conditions for the implementation of agreements on lasting settlement by the warring sides. On its part, Russia is ready to make a positive answer to the sides' requests for its participation in the operation.

Karasin expressed the hope the U.N. secretariat will timely consider military-technical, financial and other aspects of a peace-making operation in Abkhazia in accordance with the U.N. Security Council's resolution of January 31, 1994, in order to enable members of the Security Council to discuss the operation in detail and decide on its beginning.

Views Proposal on Karabakh Conflict

LD0102180494 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1752 GMT 1 Feb 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondents Boris Krivoshey and Aleksandr Krylovich]

[Text] Moscow February 1 TASS—A new Russian proposal on global cease-fire from February 1 through minimum two or three weeks has been presented by special representative of the Russian president Vladimir

Kazimirov to Azeri President Geydar Aliyev, Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan and Karabakh Leader Robert Kocharyan, head of the Russian Foreign Ministry's Information and Press Department Grigoriy Karasin told a briefing here today.

"Depending on the sides' reaction to the proposal, Russia plans further steps aiming at termination of combat operations in Nagorno- Karabakh," said the diplomat.

Bloody fighting around Nagorno-Karabakh has been on since the second half of December 1993. It has claimed the lives of several thousands of people and wounded another several thousands, mainly the attackers.

"The new escalation of combat operations is even more senseless as heads of all the warring sides admit the conflict has no military solution and make statements favoring political settlement. The bloodshed recurrence hampers peace-making efforts of Russia and international organizations," stressed the Foreign Ministry spokesman.

Notes 'Positive Changes' in Mideast

LD0102182694 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1746 GMT 1 Feb 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic corresopndents Boris Krivoshey and aleksandr krylovich]

[Text] Moscow February 1 TASS—Positive changes in the Mid-Eastern political life are increasingly feasible, head of the Russian Foreign Ministry's Information and Press Department Grigoiry Karasin told a briefing here today.

The region's policy of peaceful restructuring "gradually removes painful aspects of the post-Gulf War inter-Arab relations," stressed the diplomat. A proof to it is a recent Saudi Arabian meeting of King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz al Sa'ud and PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat whose ways parted during the Iraqi-Kuwaiti crisis.

The Russian Foreign Ministry believes that "progressing Mideastern peace process, including the Palestinian-Israeli declaration on principles of Palestinian self-government," gives an impetus to Arab rapprochement.

Karasin praised the efficiency of recent meetings of Yasir 'Arafat and Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres in Oslo and Davos, where "another courageous step towards peace in the Middle East was made".

UN Representative Vorontsov Appointed Ambassador to U.S.

MK0202093094 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 2 Feb 94 p 1

[SEGODNYA report: "New Foreign Ministry Appointments"]

[Text] According to reports from diplomatic circles, Yuliy Vorontsov, currently Russia's permanent representative at the United Nations, has been appointed Russia's ambassador to Washington. He will be replaced in New York by Deputy Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov.

Popov Denies He Objects to Alliance With United States

LD0102204294 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1731 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] Gavriil Popov, chairman of the Russian Democratic Reform Movement (RDRM), denied a report published in the February 1 edition of the NOVAYA YEZHEDNEVNAYA GAZETA (NEW DAILY) to the effect that he told his group's convention he wanted the alliance-style relations with the United States discontinued.

"I did not mention any issue related to alliance relations with the U.S.A. in my report," Popov told INTERFAX Tuesday. In his words, the RDRM wants "Russia to seek long-term allies and the U.S.A. can be one of them."

He also denied having said that the RDRM platform called for "large scale government control and financing."

Popov thinks that "reliance on the West and the Western development option did not work in the sense that the West was unable to offer resources for reforms in Russia and the recipes the West offered Russia made the situation here worse."

He emphasized that "the International Monetary Fund's recipes were not what the developed countries had used themselves but what they had offered to underdeveloped countries."

"What they had to offer to Russia was a Latin American option," Popov said.

U.S. To Supply 'Nearly $30 Million' for CW Destruction

PM0102125394 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 1 Feb 94 First Edition p 2

[Report by Aleksandr Shalnev: "United States Will Provide 30 Million for Destruction of Russian Chemical Weapons"]

[Text] The United States will provide nearly $30 million to set up a research center in Russia which would devise the most effective methods of monitoring the destruction of chemical weapons.

Accord on this subject was finally reached during U.S. President Clinton's recent visit to Moscow and was formalized by a protocol which is confidential at the moment. According to informed sources, the center will be based at Moscow's Vernadskiy Institute of Geochemistry and Analytical Chemistry. Over one-half of the sum promised by the Americans will go on instruments and equipment.

Commentary Views U.S. Defense Budget Issues

LD0102170994 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 2010 GMT 31 Jan 94

[Text] It has been announced in Washington that the Pentagon's budget for the next fiscal year will amount to $264 billion. The sum is approximately the same as in the current fiscal year. Commentary by Vladislav Kozyakov:

When this announcement was made, some congressmen asked themselves the question whether the already planned program of cuts in defense spending would be possible. The program provides for reducing defense allocations by $120 billion within the next five years. The congressmen began to analyze President Clinton's words that the United States must not cut defense further. They came to the conclusion that the adopted plan of cuts in defense spending remains in force, and the word further meant there would be no more cuts except those already planned. Senator Sam Nunn reacted positively to the conclusion.

The most important thing is that the U.S. military budget is least of all linked with the relations between Moscow and Washington. Russia and the United States, the two great nuclear powers, do not consider each other as an adversary. Cooperation in the military field replaced confrontation. This showed itself in the agreement on the reduction of strategic arms and in the U.S. assistance in dismantling the Soviet nuclear arsenal. The level of mutual understanding is characterized by the recent agreement, under which Russian and American nuclear missiles will not targeted at each other's territory or any other country.

So what's the reason for Washington's intention to cut the Pentagon's budget even more than it was previously planned? This is obviously attributed to difficulties of the military conversion process. There have been a number of reports in the American media on behind-the-scenes activities of congressmen from the military industrial regions.

New threats is probably another reason: These are regional conflicts. John Murtha, chairman of the House of Representatives Appropriations Defense Subcommittee, believes the United States may face a dangerous conflict on the Korean peninsula, a conflict even more dangerous than Haiti, Bosnia, or Somalia. In the meantime, the Pentagon insists on a strategy calling for a military force ready to fight two major regional conflicts simultaneously.

According to the mass media, there is no unanimity in the Congress to give up cuts in defense spending. According to experts and research institutions in the United States, the end of the cold war and military confrontation between Moscow and Washington has created a unique chance to direct material resources to civilian programs, the more so since regional conflicts can hardly be compared with the threat to life on earth.

That was a commentary by Vladislav Kozyakov.

Cosmonaut Comments Before U.S. Space Shuttle Flight

LD0202113494 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1115 GMT 2 Feb 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vitaliy Chukseyev]

[Text] Washington February 2 TASS—The U.S. multiple-use spaceship "Discovery" is to lift off from the cosmodrome on Cape Canaveral at 3:10 p.m. Moscow time on February 3. For the first time, the crew of the shuttle will include Russian cosmonaut Sergey Krikalev. He has already made spaceflights twice in international crews. The flight on board the "Discovery" will set the beginning to a joint programme of space exploration which became possible due to agreement between the presidents of Russia and the United States. Before entering on a preflight quarantine, Krikalev gave an interview to ITAR-TASS.

Krikalev said the programme for flight preparation at the Lyndon Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas, differs little from the cosmonauts training programme in Russia. Language barrier was the main difficulty. Krikalev said that he and his standby Vladimir Titov were sent to Houston on November 1, 1992 without having been given time for language studies. The programme included the study of systems, safety rules, training in the ways of emergency evacuation from the ship and drilling in survival methods.

Asked about the flight's purposes and programme and his personal contribution to it, Krikalev said his purpose was to meet the requirements for an ordinary member of the American crew. Upon the arrival in the U.S., the Russian cosmonauts began training in fulfilling the duties envisaged by the rank of a specialist which corresponds to Russian qualifications of a flight engineer. The main purpose of the flight is to bring into space a satellite shaped like a saucer and to put it into orbit by means of a special manipulator. Sensors installed on the satellite will analyse jets of the shuttle's engines. This is very important as the cooperation programme envisages the shuttle's flight towards Mir station and the linkup with it.

When asked what he thinks about the fact that he will make the flight on board an American and not a Russian shuttle, Krikalev said that regarding the level of technology and organisation of the programme Russia and the U.S. are on approximately the same level. American astronauts are ahead in some things, Russians in others, particularly from the viewpoint of prolonged flights. Russian "Buran" was launched back in 1988. It took off and landed in an automatic regime and in very bad weather. Not a single shuttle ever flies when the weather is so bad, Krikalev said.

Regarding Americans training for a flight in the Russian orbital complex in 1995, Krikalev said that several American astronauts are training for the flight. He said the advantage of their training is that the American astronauts selected for the flight have been studying Russian eight hours a day over the recent months. The Americans attitude to this aspect is serious and they are thorough.

Moscow Preparing Talks on Partnership for Peace

LD0102120094 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1114 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] The Russian Foreign Ministry is preparing for consultations with NATO leaders on Russia's possibly joining the Partnership for Peace program, Director of the Department for Cooperation with Europe Yuriy Ushakov told Interfax on Tuesday [1 February].

He said that Russia intended to find out the NATO leaders' position in relation to Russia and determine the parameters of the agreements to be concluded.

The date of consultations has not been fixed yet. "However, they will take place in the near future," said the Russian diplomat.

NATO Supreme Commander Meets With Defense Chiefs

LD0102184194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1824 GMT 1 Feb 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Sergey Ostanin]

[Text] Moscow February 1 TASS—"The Russian Armed Forces General Staff is studying the Partnership for Peace program. It carries good ideas and will boost our rapprochement with NATO," head of the Russian Armed Forces General Staff Colonel-General Mikhail Kolesnikov told NATO Supreme Allied Commander Europe General Henning von Ondarza at the Russian Defence Ministry today.

According to the colonel-general, the Russian Defence Ministry hopes the contacts will "improve planning, organization, preparation and implementation of peacekeeping operations that involve Russian units".

"The Russian Armed Forces General Staff and the Defence Ministry pay much attention to the peace-keeping operations. We analyze the experience of our peacemaking battalion in former Yugoslavia and that of our military observers acting under the U.N. aegis," he said.

The official informed the NATO general of a peacemaking role of Russian troops in the Trans-Dniester region, Tajikistan and other areas of the commonwealth.

In his turn, General von Ondarza said NATO plans to discuss details of cooperation with Russia.

The general arrived in Russia on Monday on a four-day visit. He has met Russian Army Commander-in-Chief Colonel-General Vladimir Semenov, visited the Kantemirovskaya Guard tank division and acquainted himself with combat training and the military routine.

A draft program of Russian-NATO military cooperation for 1994 was discussed at a meeting of representatives of the Russian Defence Ministry and NATO last week in Moscow. The draft includes 50 military arrangements, namely exchange visits of Russian and NATO military command and experts, joint exercises and training, training of Russian officers at NATO units and educational establishments and mutual invitations to military exercises.

Chernomyrdin Gives News Conference on Italy Trip

LD0102144094 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1305 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] We now go over to our political commentator Valeriy Kiosa. He is on the phone to the studio from Viktor Stepanovich Chernomyrdin's news conference. Over to you.

[Kiosa] Thank you. The prime minister was actually expected above all to sum up the results of his visits to Italy and to the World Economic Forum in Switzerland, but of course we could not do without issues from back home. Let us be chronological, however.

First of all, the Russian prime minister singled out the talks on the possible expansion of G-7 into a G-8—by the addition of Russia. But—and this is, I would say, a new element in the prime minister's standpoint—he stressed that we should realize the difficulties of this issue. These include the prices—it is against our interests too to bring them down; and also the customs rules. So possibly one should start from the political aspect of Russia's inclusion in G-7, and then pass on to the economy. In the prime minister's words, there is a certain degree of understanding from our partners.

As for relations with European countries, Viktor Chernomyrdin emphasized again that Russia was not laying claim to any special status, but that it had a right to have the same status as anyone else. Here too there are lots of questions. For instance, we produce so much aluminum that, as Viktor Chernomyrdin put it, one could bury half of Europe in it, while their works would have to stop. So this is a delicate issue, and all the details have to be worked out carefully.

Another problem is our debts. Our partners say: First you pay, then we'll have cooperation. Russia, however, believes that through cooperation it will get the opportunity to pay off its debt. Here too some progress has been made, but talks are continuing.

As I've said, however, we could not possibly do without issues relating to Russian internal matters. A question was asked about Georgia's possible membership of the ruble zone. Viktor Chernomyrdin expressed a certain degree of surprise, and said the question had not been raised at the talks, and Russia was not ready for this. As for the ruble zone in general, the prime minister stressed that many dozens of documents on the economic union were being prepared now, including various fiscal policy options. In any case, though, and here I quote Viktor Chernomyrdin, the government will not do anything to the detriment of Russia.

Talking about his short-term plans, the prime minister singled out first of all his preparations for an important government session, which is to take place not on 17 February, as originally planned, but on 24 February. The date was agreed only today, after a meeting with the Russian president, to whom Viktor Chernomyrdin, at the start of the news conference, wished a happy birthday. He said he had handed Yeltsin, on behalf of the government, the best bunch of flowers of all those that will appear in the president's office today. That is about all I can tell you about the prime minister's news conference.

Opposes Air Strikes in Bosnia

LD0102151794 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1509 GMT 1 Feb 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Ivan Ivanov]

[Text] Moscow February 1 TASS—Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin said on Tuesday the crisis in Bosnia should be settled only by peaceful means.

"Russia stands against the escalation of the conflict and against air strikes" on positions of conflicting sides, he told a press conference.

However, the priemier also opposed the statements of Russian nationalist leader Vladimir Zhirnovskiy who said in Bosnia that U.S.-proposed air strikes on serbs would be viewed as an attack on Russia.

"This is an exaggeration", Chernomyrdin commented.

"The settlement of the Bosnian conflict is not an easy problem and it cannot be solved overnight", Chernomyrdin said.

Kozyrev Discusses Bosnia With Mediators

LD0102142394 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1413 GMT 1 Feb 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Georgiy Shmelyov]

[Text] Moscow February 1 TASS—Bosnian peace process goes on is the opinion of Bosnian settlement mediators Lord Owen and Thorvald Stoltenberg, Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev said here today after meeting the co-chairmen of the international London conference on former Yugoslavia. "The Russian initiative follows the same channel," he stressed.

The meeting discussed additional cooperation measures to prevent further escalation of regional violence, keep the Geneva negotiations process going and achieve Bosnian settlement.

The sides also focuses on a new Russian initiative that presupposes boosted efforts of the Security Council in order to develop the peace process, said Kozyrev.

Speaking of possible air raids in Bosnia, Kozyrev said in principle this measure is not excluded within the framework of Security Council resolutions but "it is an extreme step". The Russian foreign minister noted the need for additional consultations of the U.N. Security Council's permanent members and expressed the hope the raids will not happen.

The co-chairmen departed for Geneva after a brief working visit to Moscow.

Comments on Zhirinovskiy

LD0102174994 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1730 GMT 1 Feb 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Georgy Shmelyov]

[Text] Moscow February 1 TASS—Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev mocked the idea that inflammatory statements of nationalist leader Vladimir Zhirinovsky can influence the position of any of the three warring sides in Bosnia and proposed to hold a competition for the best tablet for Zhirinovsky.

The tablets should be for "hysteria, suspicion and other types of devilish possession". "There is a feeling that Zhirinovsky has succeeded in creating the situation of hysteria and suspicion", Kozyrev told reporters after meeting international mediators Lord Owen and Thorvald Stoltenberg on Tuesday.

He was evidently referring to statements of Zhirinovsky who said that air strikes on Bosnian Serbs will be viewed as an attack on Russia and promised to use an alleged secret sonic weapon in retaliation.

But Kozyrev expressed hope that there would be no air strikes on Bosnia although the possibility is not ruled out in the framework of the UN Security Council resolutions and only in "extreme cases".

He added that "punishment strikes" are "absolutely inadmissible".

However, the foreign minister admitted that "hypothetically the possibility of air strikes exists" in case UN peace-keepers are attacked by any of the conflicting sides while fulfilling their humanitarian mission.

Kozyrev said that the UN secretary general had named Srebrenica and Tuzla as the regions where a threat to UN forces exist. "Luckily, talks with the Serbian side resulted in an agreement on help in replacing the Canadian battalion with a Dutch one. Diplomatic work to unblock the situation in Tuzla is going on which is possible with a direct Russian participation", Kozyrev said adding that attacks on UN convoys are staged not only by Serbs, but by Muslims and Croats as well.

Lord Owen thanked Russia for "a very constructive role" on all stages of the work to reach a political settlement.

None of the three warring parties can secure a military victory and a solution can be found only at the negotiating table, he told TASS.

He expressed hope that the conflicting sides will resume negotiations in the coming weeks to "find a compromise on those inconsiderable contradictions which still exist".

Owen urged to continue humanitarian aid supplies to the civilian population in conditions of a harsh winter.

Bosnia Mediators' Arrival, Zhirinovskiy Remarks Linked

PM0102193994 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 2 Feb 94 p 3

[Report by Sergey Sidorov: "Green Light to Use Air Power in Bosnia"]

[Excerpts] UN Secretary General Butrus-Ghali's decision to give the green light to the use of air power in Bosnia to support the relief of the Canadian battalion in Srebrenica and the opening of the airport in Tuzla continues to prompt a variety of comment from officials, experts, and the press. [passage omitted]

On Tuesday international mediators T. Stoltenberg and David Owen (EU) arrive in Moscow for consultatuions. The Russian leadership's position, which will be set out for

them at the Foreign Ministry, will probably differ from the pronouncements by LDPR [Liberal Democratic Party of Russia] leader Vladimir Zhirinovskiy, who said in Belgrade that the bombing of Serbs in Bosnia will mean a declaration of war on Russia. Nonetheless, the mediators will again be advised to think twice before reaching decisions on Bosnia. Their talks with the Russian Federation foreign minister will probably center on the new Russian initiatives and the future of the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia.

Zhirinovskiy's Visit to Slovenia, Belgrade Reported

PM0102114594 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 1 Feb 94 First Edition p 2

[Report by Andrey Baturin and Sergey Gryzunov: "Broom Dance As Performed by Zhirinovskiy"]

[Text] Belgrade—Vladimir Zhirinovskiy arrived on vacation in independent Slovenia, where he waltzed with a broom and did a Cossack dance. His bodyguard swam after hotel property that had been thrown in a lake, while the Yugoslav businessmen organizing and paying for the trip by the deputy's team smashed glasses at supper in classic Russian style.

The Slovene Internal Affairs Ministry ordered him to leave the republic, probably in response to the statement that not "every small place can call itself a state" (Slovenia is a small country even by European standards).

Zhirinovskiy went from Slovenia to Belgrade, managing en route, in Budapest, not only to explain to flabbergasted Hungarians that they had no prospects, that no one wanted their "Ikarusz" buses and apples because they had plenty of their own, but also to indicate a way out of the situation. According to the LDPR [Liberal Democratic Party of Russia] leader, it is to galvanize the ideas of CEMA and the Warsaw Pact and create a zone of East European cooperation.

In the capital of Serbia and Yugoslavia the visitor was greeted with tumultuous applause in a hall which was packed with many more admirers than journalists invited to the press conference. Zhirinovskiy said that he had told Chernomyrdin that he would not rest as long as Kozyrev was a minister: "My task is to remove him from the Russian government."

Belgrade's next guest or, to be more precise, the guest of the local orthodox neocommunists, will be Gennadiy Zyuganov, in Febrary.

"I come here as a victor, as chairman of the party that gained three times as many votes as those who are are now governing Russia," Zhirinovskiy said. "I want to warn the Western countries' governments that to bomb any cities in Bosnia will be to declare war on Russia.... Let them not forget that there are still Russian forces in Europe and they could remain there for a long time."

This is exactly what the conflict participants are seeking to achieve in the Balkans—to involve the powerful of this world in the bloody internecine strife. The Serbs are trying to involve the Russians, the Muslims are trying to involve the Islamic world, and the Croats are trying to involve the West.

Zhirinovskiy said he was against East European states joining NATO: "If they want to clean the boots of the Germans, British, and French, let them join." Russia will not do so. And as soon as it has a new president, his party will create a Union of Slavic States.

Vladimir Zhirinovskiy's words meet with a warm response in the hearts of a section of Yugoslav society. After all, he is promising the victims of sanctions and war what they want: The lifting of sanctions and victory both over economic problems and on the battlefield. When Zhirinovskiy finally wins, Russia will defend its Orthodox brothers.

There are others who think differently. Like, for example, the BORBA newspaper commentator voicing the opinion of the Serbian democratic opposition: "We should be more concerned about the support for Zhirinovskiy than about Kozyrev's refusal to adopt a 'pro-Serbian stance'.... Serbia and Yugoslavia are certainly in a very difficult situation. But it is equally difficult to imagine that anyone would vote for the destruction of Russia and the whole world for the sake of our salvation."

No Big Changes in Ties With Ukraine, Belarus

LD0102121794 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1042 GMT 1 Feb 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tamara Zamyatina]

[Text] Moscow, 1 Feb—"Russia's relations with Ukraine and Belarus will not change significantly with the election of Yuriy Meshkov as president of Crimea or the removal of Stanislav Shushkevich from the post of speaker of the Belarus parliament," Sergey Krasavchenko, first deputy head of the Russian presidential administration, told the ITAR-TASS correspondent.

According to him, "relations between the three CIS states will be implemented within the framework of the strategy and political course determined during the meetings of leaders of the Commonwealth and in bilateral agreements."

If Belarus adopts a position toward Russia that differs from that under Stanislav Shuskevich, "the appropriate reaction from Russia will follow, too. And the same applies to Ukraine," Sergey Krasavchenko noted.

The advent to power of Yuriy Meshkov, president of Crimea, who is a radical supporter of the peninsula becoming a sovereign entity "may complicate relations between Russia and Ukraine, if certain forces strive to draw Russia into the nascent conflict." However, he stressed, "there are normal, civilized, political methods" that may help avert confrontation. Recalling the statement by Yuriy Meshkov that he does not intend to seek Crimea's immediate departure from Ukraine and its annexation to Russia, Sergey Krasavchenko noted that "no major grounds for tension should arise."

Russia's Choice Opposes Financial Union With Belarus

LD0102130994 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1114 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] The State Duma's Russia's Choice faction, led by former first deputy prime minister Yegor Gaydar, opposes plans for the unification of the Russian and Belarusian monetary systems, claiming they are hasty and badly prepared.

"In their current form, the inter-bank and intergovernmental agreements will undoubtedly inflict colossal economic damage on Russia, spur inflation, and sharply bring down the Russian citizens' living standards," says the faction's statement circulated on Monday.

The document says, however, that Russia's Choice favors Russia's economic integration with Belarus and other former Soviet republics on clear-cut terms. The terms on which the two states' monetary systems might be united are as follows:

1. The unification of the budget, taxing, crediting, financial, customs, foreign-trade and monetary legislation;

2. The levelling of the two states' economic indices, above all the budget deficit, and the rates of credit emission and inflation;

3. The Belarusian national currency shall be exchanged for the ruble at a rate fixed on the free currency market;

4. Credits and cash shall come strictly from one emission center.

Only on these terms will integration be equitable and mutually advantageous for the states concerned, says Russia's Choice.

Kazakhstan Opposes Russian Military Base at Baykonur

LD0102200594 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1915 GMT 1 Feb 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Semyon Ivanov]

[Text] Moscow February 1 TASS—Kazakhstan does not recognize the Baykonur space launching grounds as a Russian military base and demands its demilitarization, as the Kazakh Constitution proclaims the absence of foreign military bases on republican territory, Kazakh state adviser Tulegen Zhukeyev told a meeting of Russian and Kazakh experts here today.

A Russian-Kazakh intergovernment memorandum on "Mutual Understanding in Maintenance of the Baykonur Space Launching Grounds" was signed a month ago and membership of an intergovernment commission for Baykonur has been confirmed. The commission is expected to prepare draft bilateral documents on status and conditions of the use of Baykonur and the town of Leninsk and rent of Baykonur and Leninsk facilities within two months.

Under the memorandum, Russian military units were to temporarily stay on Baykonur territory and the launching grounds themselves were to be rented by Russia. However, the Kazakh side continues to insist on Baykonur demilitarization, meanwhile preparations and launches of rocket boosters and spacecraft are so far impossible without servicemen of the Russian aero-space forces. The Russian side wants to rent Baykonur which is in principle supported by Kazakhstan.

The rent term is so far unclear (a rent period of less than 30 years is inefficient for Russia). Kazakhstan has its own notion of the rent and it will be the most difficult to agree on the rent amount. Thus, Russia may have to boost the creation of its own launching grounds (a project of the sort is already available) to include defence and security tasks now solved only in Baykonur.

Another acute question is the Kazakh demand for compensation for the damage done by Russian organizations at Baykonur space launching grounds and other three testing grounds located on Kazakh territory. According to estimations, the full cost of restoration of basic assets and Russian compensation for 1992-1993 maintenance and use of Baykonur and the testing grounds exceeds seven billion U.S. dollars.

Baykonur seems to be used for bargaining and pressure on Russia. It has been established that the population was harmed only by nuclear tests in Semipalatinsk, and not a single nuclear explosion was registered there since the moment Russia proclaimed sovereignty. Thus, Russia cannot be responsible for damage done to the population in the past.

Abkhazia Against Georgian-Russian Treaty

LD0102121194 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1034 GMT 1 Feb 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Irina Shchegoleva]

[Text] Sochi, 1 Feb—"We are against the signing of a treaty on friendship and cooperation between Russia and Georgia, planned for 3 February," said Sokrat Dzhindzholiya, chairman of the Abkhaz Council of Ministers, on behalf of the Abkhaz government to an ITAR-TASS correspondent this morning. He believes this treaty "will enable Georgia to have access to Russian weapons." Sokrat Dzhindzholiya believes the treaty on friendship and cooperation between Russia and Georgia can only be signed after a comprehensive settlement of the Georgian-Abkhaz conflict, which is impossible without defining Abkhazia's political status.

"During the recent talks in Geneva, only a first step was made toward the settlement of the conflict," underlined Sokrat Dzhindzholiya. "The threat of renewed fighting still exists, and the question of peacekeeping forces for the conflict zone has been raised. In such conditions, the signing of a treaty with Georgia is fraught with very serious consequences."

The chairman of the Abkhaz Council of Ministers said leaders of North Caucasian republics within Russia share his point of view.

Chernomyrdin Comments on Eve on Yeltsin Georgia Visit

LD0102143194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1410 GMT 1 Feb 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Ivan Ivanov]

[Text] Moscow February 1 TASS—"We are not prepared to admit Georgia into the ruble zone," chairman of the Russian Government Viktor Chernomyrdin told journalists on Tuesday on the eve of Russian president's visit to Georgia scheduled on February 3.

Chernomyrdin said that during previous meetings with Georgian leaders the question of Georgia's entering the ruble zone was not discussed.

The Russian prime minister believes that this problem might be considered in the context of the realisation of the economic union between CIS countries. He pointed out that countries joining the ruble zone will have to sacrifice part of their sovereignty and carry out tough coordination of economic reforms between themselves.

In connection with the January statement made by Russian and Belarusian leadership on Belarus' entering the ruble zone Chernomyrdin pointed out that "it is naive to suppose that this will happen at the expense of Russian tax-payers." Chernmomyrdin pointed out that Belarus is not going to live at Russia's expense. "Admitting Belarus into the ruble zone will not be detrimental to Russia's interests. We shall not let it happen," Chernomyrdin declared. [as received]

Chernomyrdin believes that one cannot speak today about an anti- reformist policy of the Belarusian leadership. "I see that the Belarusian Government is targeted at reforms," he added.

Duma Disapproves of Visit

LD0202115894 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1100 GMT 2 Feb 94

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] Intersept agency reports that members of the Russian State Duma have unanimously spoken against the president's forthcoming trip to Georgia. They believe that it is the wrong moment in time to pay attention to this unstable Transcaucasian state. Experts believe that signing a treaty between Russia and Georgia in the situation when problems of the North Caucasus have not been resolved may provoke a conflict between the executive and the lawmakers in Russia. Most deputies of the lower chamber will vote down the ratification of such a treaty.

Grachev Leaves for Tbilisi

LD0202094994 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0910 GMT 2 Feb 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Mikhail Shevtcov]

[Text] Moscow February 2 TASS—General of the Army Pavel Grachev, Russian minister of defence, left Moscow for Tbilisi on wednesday morning to attend a meeting between the Russian president Boris Yeltsin and Georgian leader Eduard Shevardnadze.

Along with the signing of a treaty of friendship and cooperation between the two states, a package of agreements on cooperation between the military structures of Russia and Georgia is also expected to be discussed and signed.

Much attention at the talks is to be given to matters concerning the status of and conditions for the functioning of Russian border troops.

Expert opinion is that the prospective conclusion of Russo-Georgian military agreements does not mean the establishment of any military-political alliance between Russia and Georgia against Abkhazia.

The interests of both Abkhazia and South Ossetia are to be taken into account during the discussion of cooperation-related matters between the two states.

The problem of reaching mutual understanding over the question of carrying out peacekeeping operations in Abkhazia with the use of a peacekeeping force under U.N. auspices will be one of important aspects of the forthcoming talks.

Georgia Special Services Prepare for Visit

PM0102210794 Moscow TRUD in Russian 2 Feb 94 Night Edition p 1

[POSTFACTUM report: "Tbilisi Awaits Boris Yeltsin..."]

[Text] As a POSTFACTUM correspondent has been told in circles close to the Georgian Ministry of Security and Ministry of Internal Affairs, 20 of the Russian Federation president's security personnel have arrived in Tbilisi. The routes that Boris Yeltsin will take have been divided into five zones, and each of these into several sectors.

For their part, the Georgian special services are also adopting extraordinary security measures. In particular, 5,000 policemen and around 300 Ministry of Security staffers intend to ensure security in the zone of the route that will be taken by the Russian Federation president 3 February.

As the Georgian Foreign Ministry has reported, B. Yeltsin will be accompanied by Russian Federation Foreign Minister A. Kozyrev, St. Petersburg Mayor A. Sobchak, and Defense Minister P. Grachev.

Georgia Mood, Expectations Eyed Ahead of Visit

PM0102212794 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 2 Feb 94 First Edition p 6

[Mikhail Dolidze report: "Georgia: Tbilisi Awaits Boris Yeltsin"]

[Text] Tbilisi—The final round of Russian-Georgian talks, where the treaty on friendship, good-neighborliness, and cooperation between the two countries and a package of

other documents are being prepared for signing, began Monday. Boris Yeltsin and Eduard Shevardnadze are to sign them 3 February.

On the eve of Boris Yeltsin's visit to Tbilisi Shevardnadze has advocated launching new relations with Russia designed to help settle the Abkhazian and South Ossetian crises and overcome economic difficulties. The Georgian leader stressed that the documents which will be signed meet Russia's strategic interests. On the subject of the imminent return 10 February of the Georgian refugees to Abkhazia, Shevardnadze announced the prospect of a Russian peacekeeping mission in the conflict zone in collaboration with the UN endeavors.

Rumors are rife about Georgia's also joining the ruble zone. Parliamentary discussion of issues which have generated the inflation of the coupon has been put back to 10 February. The Cabinet of Ministers said it was not ready to issue an analysis of the problem. This situation was assessed thus: Yeltsin will come, Georgia will enter the ruble zone, and there will be no need to discuss the coupon problem, since the coupon itself will no longer exist.

"The question of the possibility of Georgia's joining the ruble zone may really be on the agenda at the talks," Tengiz Sigua, retired head of the Cabinet of Ministers and one of the leaders of the opposition, agreed. "But I doubt that we will return to the ruble. We have not asked Russia whether it needs such a burden. Those who claim that if Georgia joins the ruble zone it will receive products and energy sources at the wave of a magic wand are bluffing. We will not see those so easily. But the fact that we need to build good-neighborly relations both politically and economically—that I agree with."

Irakliy Tsereteli, chairman of the National Independence Party, wants to gain an advantage for himself from Yeltsin's visit—to restore the prestige of the street platform. He came to the parliament from street rallies, and he wants to go back to them. This young radical is promising to gather an audience on the days of Yeltsin's visit and hold a rally outside the Russian Embassy building.

"Russia should know that not everyone in Georgia is satisfied with its imperial attitude toward us," Tsereteli told journalists.

Tsereteli will hold a rally if he can assemble an audience, which people here doubt. But B. Kakubava, head of the Abkhazia liberation organization and a deputy in the Georgian parliament, does not have to go out of his way to gain an audience. There are thousands of refugees from Abkhazia in Tbilisi today. In the next few days Kakubava is planning to bring them out onto the streets, and these will be the first "meeting groups" the Russian president will see, he stated; they will sit down at the airport and the Russian Embassy and declare a hunger strike, demanding a meeting with Yeltsin.

"Yeltsin will hear us," Kakubava said. "We will tell him how guilty Russia and Russian citizens are for the fact that 250,000 refugees now find themselves displaced from their homes."

Another person who comes from Abkhazia is more pragmatic—Vice Premier Tomaz Nadareishvili, who once headed the government of the autonomous formation. Nadareishvili believes that rallies are not compulsory. You simply have to ask the specific questions.

And as for the official authorities, they are waiting impatiently for the Russian president's first visit. A commission to meet B. Yeltsin has been set up. Georgia, which suffered during the years of ersatz independence, thirsts first and foremost for serious political and economic cooperation.

Adygea Open Letter to Yeltsin Protests Georgia Ties

PM0102224394 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 2 Feb 94 First Edition p 6

[Unattributed report under general headline "Georgia: Tbilisi Awaits Boris Yeltsin": "...And Meanwhile"]

[Text] On the eve of Boris Yeltsin's visit to Georgia, representatives of sociopolitical movements of Adygea have circulated an open letter to the Russian president and prime minister. It observes in particular that the peoples of the North Caucasus and the south of Russia have greeted the end of the war with Abkhazia with great satisfaction.

At the same time, the letter says, the threat of a new spiral of conflict has recently risen sharply. The attempt by certain Georgian forces to impose their will on the people of Abkhazia and deprive them of the opportunity to control their own lives as they see fit may bring to naught all that has been done by the joint efforts of the peoples of Russia, and lead to a new war which may prove to be even more embittered.

At the same time numerous rallies are being held in the cities and settlements of Abkhazia. Its population is alarmed at the imminent signing of a treaty between Russia and Georgia which envisages the strengthening of Georgia's national army. The rally participants believe that this will create new preconditions for an escalation of hostilities.

The quadripartite meeting on the problem of Georgian-Abkhazian relations, planned for this week in Sochi, has also been frustrated. It was planned that representatives of Russia and delegates from the office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees would take part in it. According to Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Boris Pastukhov, the reason for the cancellation of the meeting is that it has not proved possible to sign in Moscow a multilateral agreement on refugees.

The possible conclusion of a military alliance between Russia and Georgia is generating alarm in a number of regions of the Caucasus. As has become known from confidential sources close to the leadership of Abkhazia and the Confederation of Caucasus Peoples, if strong-arm pressure is applied to Abkhazia, the Confederation of Caucasus Peoples is prepared to send approximately 5,000-6,000 of its volunteers to defend it. Roughly the same number of volunteers may be activated on Russia's borders with Georgia which pass through the North Caucasus.

Army Paper Raises Question of Servicemen in Georgia

PM0202105594 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 2 Feb 94 p 1

[Petr Karpetyan report: "Time To Ask Questions: 72 Russian Servicemen Have Been Killed in Georgia in the Last Three Years. Their Killers Have Not Been Found, Their Families Are Still Awaiting Condolences...."]

[Text] U.S. congressmen make the development of relations with Vietnam directly dependent upon Hanoi's readiness to clarify the fate of U.S. MIA's in the Vietnam war. And that is not a diplomatic whim: The history of the pretty difficult relations between Washington and Hanoi cannot be rewritten—what happened, happened. But it is impossible to inaugurate a "new era" between them while the fate of the last soldier from that almost 20-year-old war still remains unknown.

It is not always proper to draw analogies in such a delicate area as relations between two countries, but they do sometimes arise. Like, for example, today, on the eve of Russian President Boris Yeltsin's visit to Tbilisi, where it is expected that a "major" interstate treaty on friendship and cooperation will be signed. Credit and praise are due to those who have tirelessly advanced this solemn moment. There have been difficulties. And there still are: After all, Georgia is signing a treaty with a country which it saw—at the height of the Abkh[illegible]ampaign—as its main adversary and, incidentall[illegible]ed so from the highest rostrums....

But, be that as it may, it would be good to inugurate the "new era" in relations by eliminating misunderstandings. The killers of Major Vladimir Berilov, Captain Yakov Ivanov, the 8-year-old captain's daughter Marina Savostina, and another 69 Russian servicemen and members of their families still roam free in Georgia to this day. There is no statute of limitation for these crimes. But if it is impossible for some reason to track down the criminals (although the killer of a U.S. diplomat was found in Tbilisi in just a matter of days. Excuses were not enough. Was it because he was an American?) is it really impossible to expresss, albeit belatedly, very belatedly, simple human sympathy to the families of the Russians whoi have been killed?

German World War II POW's who died in Georgia have had a memorial erected in the republic's capital. Is it because they were Germans?

But who will answer for the Russians, will they be remembered during the talks in Tbilisi?

Tape of Japanese Fishing Boat Incident at Talks

LD0102075894 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0740 GMT 1 Feb 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vyacheslav Bantin]

[Text] Tokyo February 1 TASS—Russian border guards video-filmed the recent incident during which 130-140 Japanese fishing boats crossed Russia's state border in the area of south Kurils and the actions of the Russian border patrol ships, Colonel-General Andrey Nikolayev, commander-in-chief of Russia's frontier forces, told ITAR-TASS. He arrived here to attend a three-sided forum, opening on Tuesday, of representatives from Russia, the United States and Japan on security in the northern Pacific.

Nikolayev said he brought the video film to Tokyo and is prepared to show it to Japanese experts if they would wish so.

On Monday a spokesman for Japan's Maritime Safety Agency (MSA) told ITAR-TASS that the agency "did not put on record" massive intrusions by Japanese fishing boats into Russian territorial waters on January 21-22, which had been the subject of a Russian Foreign Ministry representation made to Tokyo.

In view of this, the MSA, which partially performs the functions of frontier units, dropped the inquiry into whether Japanese boats crossed the state border of the Russian Federation.

It has become known from informed sources that last year Russian border guards recorded about 7,000 transgressions of the border by Japanese fishing boats. Practically no transgressors were apprehended to avoid a conflict with the neighbouring state.

Commentator Hails Kozyrev's Visit to PRC

OW0202055394 Moscow Radio Moscow in Mandarin 1300 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Unidentified station observer commentary; from the "Good Evening, China" program]

[Text] Russian Foreign Minister Kozyrev has ended his official visit to China. Our station observer has the following comment on the outcome of his visit:

The talks and meetings held in Beijing, as well as documents signed there, have shown that both sides have made important strides in strengthening and deepening the Russian-Chinese bilateral relations. They have formulated active measures including common understanding on developing their partnership in economic cooperation and trade, and have resolved important border issues. Eventually, they have agreed to hold the second Russian-Chinese summit in Moscow in 1994. In short, Russia's foreign policy has been attaching—previously and currently—top priority to Russian-Chinese relations.

However, the impact of the Russian Foreign Minister's visit to China was not limited to Russian-Chinese bilateral relations. The Russian Foreign Ministry publicly reiterated that the Russian Foreign Minister's visit to China has striven to further strengthen peace and security throughout the whole Asia-Pacific region. First, from Russia's viewpoint, the Asia-Pacific region has become more and more important to Russia's future. Russia has in the past, as now, regarded relations with members of the Asia-Pacific region as multilateral. Therefore, Russia has maintained sound relations with all countries of the Asia-Pacific region. The same principle has been reflected in Russia's

treaties with China, India, and the Republic of Korea, and in Russia's ties with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Russia's relations with Japan, with members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, and with other countries of the Asia-Pacific region have all been established under the same principle.

Kozyrev said: At present, the Asia-Pacific region faces the least likelihood of large-scale conflicts since the end of the World War II. However, the threat exists in the region whereby new tense situations may occur, and existing tense situations may worsen. An example in this regard is the resumption of civil war in Cambodia. I believe that both Russia and China can facilitate an end to the bloody conflicts in Cambodia.

Nowadays, other issues bothering the Asia-Pacific region include the possibility of extracting and developing abundant resources in the Pacific Ocean, including the extraction of undersea oil and natural gas that have already been discovered, and that have been termed as very massive. I should remind our listeners: Some countries of the Asia-Pacific region have, for a long time, failed to peacefully resolve territorial disputes over some coral islands in the South China Sea. Many border conflicts among countries of the Asia-Pacific region have yet to be settled. Religious and national radicalism still have an impact on the relations among countries in the region. In summary, just as Kozyrev stressed during his visit in China: If we do not promptly handle all these problems, we will face the danger of a very powerful explosion.

The Asia-Pacific region has not been spared the threat of proliferation of nuclear weapons and rocket technology. First, the proliferation of nuclear weapons and rocket technology does not suit the interests of Russia, China, and India. Therefore, the unsettled nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula is particularly bothersome.

Russia proposed to establish, at different stages, a common security system in Asia. Russia proposed establishing a conflict- prevention center and a regional research organization that studies related work.

Kozyrev's visit to China has demonstrated once again: While pursuing its foreign policy, Russia does not intend to facilitate a West-East confrontation, or to show favoritism to either side. Only by adhering to a balanced foreign policy can Russia safeguard its accomplishments in the international arena.

Political Issues

Gaydar Says Draft Amnesty Law Disputable

LD3101142794 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1342 GMT 31 Jan 94

[Text] Moscow, 31 Jan ITAR-TASS—The draft law on an amnesty submitted by the president to the State Duma seems extremely disputable. This is the view expressed by Yegor Gaydar, leader of the Russia's Choice parliamentary faction, in a conversation with correspondents today. Next Friday the State Duma will resume its sittings and the amnesty issue looks likely to be one of the items on the agenda.

"We are very doubtful about the provisions of the draft which reduce punishments for serious criminal offenses," Gaydar said.

Filatov Says Presidential Party To Be Set Up

LD0102144294 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1322 GMT 1 Feb 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tamara Zamyatina]

[Text] Moscow, 1 Feb—Sergey Filatov, head of the Russian presidential administration believes that a presidential party will be created in Russia in the next few months. At a meeting with the president's regional representatives on Monday, he said that the organizational and theoretical work to set up such a party has already started.

A while ago, at a news conference in the Kremlin on the results of elections to the Federal Assembly, Boris Yeltsin said it was necessary to form a political force supporting the president's course.

There will be no compulsory membership in the president's party, however, there is a provision for: A structure at the top that will work on issues of financing and of the electoral campaign in terms of preparing for 1995-1996, when the competition for the post of head of state will unfold. Guidelines for the future party will be spelled out in the presidential message that Yeltsin will deliver to the Federal Assembly on 18 February, Filatov assumes. This will be a major document set to develop the Russian Constitution, he said .

Representatives of the Russian president in regions also intend to promote the formation of the presidential party. Thus, an inter-regional constituent conference is scheduled for 7 February in Samara. On the same day a similar conference is planned in Moscow.

According to Nikolay Medvedev, head of the Russian presidential administration for work with territories, it is people who are not involved in local administration who should initiate the creation of this party, rather then the president's representatives in regions. Structures of the presidential party may have different names in regions, for example: People's Party or Party of Support for the Reform. The heart of the matter is that, according to its idea, the party must unite democratic forces across Russia.

Medvedev Fears Anti-Reform 'Belt' Around Moscow

LD0102144494 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1416 GMT 1 Feb 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tamara Zamyatina]

[Text] Moscow February 1 TASS—"The eternal Russian question, 'who will defeat whom', might be at the centre of the upcoming local elections", according to the worried assessment of Nikolay Medvedev, head of the Russian presidential administration's department for work with the territories.

Medvedev told ITAR-TASS on Tuesday there is a danger that the federal government will support reforms, "while opposition forces might come to power at the regional and republican level". And no matter how constructive the efforts of reformers in the centre are, they don't stand a chance without the support of Russia's regions, he declared.

One of the problems revealed by the unfolding local campaigns is, Medvedev explained, that "despite reformers' calls for unification, in actuality we don't have any party structures in the regions". Those parties who do have local power structures are the Communist Party and others of the same leaning. They are now restoring their organisations and will, of course, do everything they can to defeat the reformers in the upcoming local elections, Medvedev said. The economic and financial difficulties in the regions play into the hands of the opposition forces.

Medvedev voiced his opinion that reformers can improve their alarming electoral prospects by "honestly explaining their mistakes made in socio-economic and financial policy, which did not take reality into account". After recognizing its mistakes, the Russian Government "should, as soon as possible, determine how it is going to correct its reform policy". "There is a hope that the president's address, to be delivered to parliament on February 18, will be the starting point of a socially-orientated policy", Medvedev pointed out.

In his analysis of elections already held in Moscow, the Moscow and Tula regions, and tens of other districts, Medvedev said he thinks the current office-holders are better than their predecessors. Therefore, he supposed, if the democratic forces can unite their efforts, they can be successful in other regions as well.

However, the presidential adviser admitted, he has little reason for optimism, since "we cannot rule out the possibility of the formation of a sort of 'red belt' around Moscow", which would be made up of regions with anti-reform and anti-president mind-sets: Tambov, Oryol, Voronezh, Lipetsk, Ryazan, Mordoviya, and Penza".

Medvedev was able to find one observation which he could call "comforting". During his trips around the country, he met with various political leaders. From his meetings, Medvedev concluded that many of them, including opposition politicians, are taking a second look at their potential allies, especially Zhirinovskiy's party with its inflammatory statements.

Poltoranin Apologizes for 'Russophobia' Remark

LD0102132694 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1114 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] Speaking at a session of the "Russia's Choice" faction on Monday, Duma member Mikhail Poltoranin regretted that his recent TV remarks "were misinterpreted by viewers and journalists." He blamed that on "the improper editing of the program, as a result of which his phrases were taken out of context, and that distorted their meaning." Despite that, Poltoranin brought apologies to "all who could have been affected by his words.

According to a spokesman for the faction, Poltoranin had to give explanations on a demand from a number of faction officials because of the public response to one of his statements. He declared on television several days ago: "Here in Russia, newspapers have always written in Russian. Today, in all this bacchanalia a new language of the press is being spread. I call it "camp Ivrit," an explosive mixture of russophobia, hatred for traditions, lies, and contempt for human dignity. If that flow goes further, we will simply blow up the nation and cause a huge tide of anti-semitism."

In the words of a popular Russian TV commentator, the reaction of the public and press has been prompt and unequivocal: Poltoranin's remark on "camp Ivrit" smacks disgustingly of anti-semitism.

At the end of the session, the leadership of the "Russia's Choice" faction asked its members to be as tactful as possible in their statements and always think before they say anything, especially on ethnic matters.

No Response Planned

LD0102133694 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1148 GMT 1 Feb 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Pavel Kuznetsonv and Ivan Novikov]

[Text] Moscow February 1 TASS—The Duma Russia's Choice faction did not, contrary to some news reports, raise the question of removing fellow party member Mikhail Poltoranin from his job as chairman of the parliamentary committee on information policy and communications, ITAR-TASS learned from faction chairman Georgiy Zadonskiy on Tuesday.

Zadonskiy was reacting to news reports which alleged that Russia's Choice was "examining Mr. Poltoranin's case". According to the media reports, the supposed grounds for Poltoranin's removal was his comment on "Russophobia in our press", uttered in a TV interview with Andrey Karaulov.

Zadonskiy declared that there was no Poltoranin "case". The committtee chairman explained to Russia's Choice deputies at a faction meeting that he talked with Andrey Karaulov for four hours, only 40 minutes of which were eventually shown in the TV programme, "Moment of Truth". At the meeting, Poltoranin admitted that his "seditious" phrase could be interpreted as being incorrect. Zadonskiy reported that the Russia's Choice deputies were satisfied with Poltoranin's explanation. However, they urged upon him the importance of carefully weighing statements before they are made public, since every word which issues from the mouth of a party member reflects upon the image of Russia's Choice.

Security Committee Chief Concerned About Yeltsin Edicts

LD0102203994 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1828 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] The Russian State Duma's Committee for Security intends to "legalize the activities of the Russian Federation Constitutional Court." This was announced to Interfax by the committee's Chief Viktor Ilyukhin (the Communist Party's faction).

In his opinion, it was necessary to utilize the provisions of the former law on Constitutional Court, which did not contradict the new Constitution adopted at the referendum on December 12, before a new law on Constitutional Court was adopted.

He reminded that the Russian Federation's constituent members were energetically issuing new laws and acts which at times failed to conform with the Russian Constitution. Ilyukhin also qualified several decrees of the Russian president as "non-constitutional." According to Ilyukhin, the president exceeded his powers when signing the decree on elimination of the Security Ministry and on establishment of the Federal Service of Counter-Intelligence subordinated to the Russian president.

According to the deputy, the new Russian Constitution does not mention the right of the president to resubordinate the ministries. Ilyukhin considers this move aimed at establishing a second government parallel with the cabinet of Chernomyrdin.

Ilyukhin is concerned over the fact that Yeltsin may not be satisfied with resubordination of intelligence and counter-intelligence and that he "harbors the idea to resubordinate the Interior Ministry and the army." According to Ilyukhin, this is to say that these bodies will be beyond judicial and prosecutor's control and also beyond the parliament's control" leaving them uncontrollable as during the Stalin era.

Statute on Operational Questions Commission

PM0202102994 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 1 Feb 94 First Edition p 4

[Decree No. 29 of the Russian Federation Government dated Moscow, 24 January 1994, and signed by V. Chernomyrdin, chairman of the Russian Federation Government: "On the Russian Federation Government Commission on Operational Questions"]

[Text] In connection with the restructuring of the structure of federal organs of executive power and with a view to ensuring the implementation of the Russian Federation Council of Ministers-Government program for the period

1993-1995 entitled "Developing Reforms and Stabilizing the Russian Economy," the Russian Federation Government decrees that:

1. It is prescribed that one of the main tasks of the Russian Federation Government Commission on Operational Questions is to examine questions associated with the structural restructuring of industry, and to elaborate and implement measures which ensure the steady and effective working of enterprises, the rational use of raw material resources (both within the country and in exports), and the enhancement of transport reliability and safety.

2. The government Commission for Questions of Credit Policy will examine on a priority basis proposals submitted by the Russian Federation Government Commission on Operational Questions.

3. The following amendments and additions will be made to the Russian Federation Council of Ministers-Government Decree No. 554 of 15 June 1993 "On the Russian Federation Council of Ministers-Government Commission on Operational Questions" (SOBRANIYE AKTOV PREZIDENTA I PRAVITELSTVA ROSSIYSKOY FEDERATSII [Collected Acts of the President and Government of the Russian Federation], 1993, No. 25, p 2367), making it read as follows:

"On the Russian Federation Government Commission on Operational Questions

"With a view to examining and resolving operational questions pertaining to the implementation of economic reform the Russian Federation Government decrees that:

"1. The Russian Federation Government Commission on Operational Questions is to be formed with the following membership: Commission Chairman O.N. Soskovets, first deputy chairman of the Russian Federation Government; Commission members—Russian Federation Government Deputy Chairmen A.B. Chubays and Yu.F. Yarov; the Russian Federation minister of the economy; the Russian Federation minister of finance; the Russian Federation minister of foreign economic relations; the Russian Federation minister of railroads; the Russian Federation minister for cooperation with the states of the Commonwealth of Independent States; the chairman of the Russian Federation State Committee for Industrial Policy; the chairman of the Russian Federation State Customs Committee; the chairman of the Central Bank of the Russian Federation; the head of the Russian Federal Service for Currency and Export Controls; and V.A. Gridnev, deputy leader of the Russian Federation Government Apparatus.

"2. The appended Statute on the Russian Federation Government Commission on Operational Questions is ratified.

"3. It is prescribed that the preparation of material for examination by the Russian Federation Government Commission on Operational Questions and its technical backup are implemented by departments of the Russian Federation Government Apparatus. The Commission Secretariat will be organized within the General Department. The number of the Commission Secretariat's senior personnel is to be set at three.

"Statute on the Russian Federation Government Commission on Operational Questions

"Ratified by decree No. 554 of the Russian Federation Council of Ministers-Government of 14 June 1993 (as amended by decree No. 29 of the Russian Federation Government of 24 January 1994)

"1. The Russian Federation Government Commission on Operational Questions (hereinafter the Commission) is a permanent organ of the Russian Federation Government, which ensures the operational examination and resolution of questions assigned to its jurisdiction.

"2. In its activity the Commission is guided by the Constitution of the Russian Federation, the laws of the Russian Federation, the edicts and directives of the Russian Federation president, the decrees and directives of the Russian Federation Government, and this Statute.

"3. The Commission's main tasks are:

"to examine and resolve operational questions of ensuring the implementation of economic reform, the state's selective structural policy, and the coordination of the activity of federal organs of executive power, apart from questions on which a Russian Federation Government ruling is required or which are assigned to the jurisdiction of its other working organs, and also to examine disagreements over the most important draft decisions of the Russian Federation Government and to prepare proposals on the aforementioned problems;

"to examine questions of shaping and implementing a national industrial development strategy, state industrial policy, and the structural restructuring of industry;

"to examine questions of ensuring the intersectoral coordination of the activity of production complexes, enterprises, and organizations, the results of whose work have a substantial impact on the resolution of national economic tasks, of creating conditions to ensure their financial and economic interest in the results of economic activity and the stabilization of their work, and their fulfillment of state contracts;

"to examine questions associated with elaborating and implementing measures to ensure the stable and effective working of enterprises, the rational use of raw material resources, and the enhancement of transport reliability and safety;

"to examine questions of changes in the level of prices and rates for electricity, fuel, petroleum products, and railroad shipments;

"to examine questions of fixing export quotas;

"to examine questions pertaining to the allocation of financial and credit resources to ensure the development and functioning of industry;

"to examine proposals from Russian Federation ministries and departments pertaining to questions of bankruptcy, the elimination or reorganization of inefficient production units, and the recovery of major state enterprises;

"to monitor the fulfillment of the most important decisions of the Russian Federation president and the Russian Federation Government on questions assigned to the Commission's jurisdiction and adopt measures to ensure their fulfillment.

"On questions requiring a Russian Federation Government ruling, the Commission shall submit the appropriate proposals in accordance with prescribed procedure.

"4. In order to perform its assigned tasks the Commission is empowered to:

create in accordance with established procedure interim working groups of scientists and specialists to study proposals on certain problems pertaining to the resolution of the Commission's assigned tasks;

"receive from Russian Federation state administration organs information (material) on questions within the Commission's jurisdiction.

"5. The membership of the Commission is ratified by the Russian Federation Government on the submission of the Commission's chairman.

"The chairman of the Commission leads its activity and bears personal responsibility for the performance of its assigned tasks.

"The members of the Commission take part in its sessions only in person [bez prava zameny].

"6. Whenever necessary the Commission may give instructions to deputy chairmen of the Russian Federation Government on questions under consideration by the Commission.

"7. The Commission's decisions are binding for federal organs of executive power subordinate to the Russian Federation Government and are conveyed to them in the form of extracts from the minutes of the Commission's sessions.

"8. Sessions of the Commission are held as necessary, but no less than once a month."

[Signed] V. Chernomyrdin, chairman of the Russian Federation Government

Military Issues

Report Says Half of Armed Forces Combat Ready

MK0102143094 Moscow MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS in Russian 30 Jan 94 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Russian Army Only Half Ready for Combat"]

[Text] MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS has learned information from reliable sources about the state of the Russian Federation Armed Forces' combat readiness.

According to classified documents of the Russian Federation Defense Ministry, only 51 percent of Armed Forces personnel are capable of performing combat missions. Only one division in every military district is capable of taking part in combat operations, the Inspectorate for the Russian Federation Armed Forces' Combat Readiness reports. Only 20 percent of tanks in service can be considered combat ready. As for naval requirements—putting a ship on full alert within 45 minutes—only a few ships of the Russian Navy are able to fulfill them.

Slavyanka Program Carries Air Force Feature

LD0102234094

[Editorial Report] Moscow Radio Moscow in Russian to Tajikistan at 1700 GMT on 1 February, in its "Radio Slavyanka" program of the Russian Defense Ministry, broadcasts a new feature entitled "About the Air Force of the Russian Federation" presented by journalist Sergey Kozlov.

Today's program begins with a recording made yesterday by Kozlov at the air force press center. He introduces the recording by saying:

"The press center of the Air Force of the Russian Defense Ministry is on the air. A methodological conference for generals and officers has taken place at the main staff of the air force. It was addressed by Air Force Colonel General Petr Deynekin, commander in chief of the Russian Air Force. A special section of his address was devoted to the tasks of the Russian air force in 1994 and the prospects for its further development. The main thing for the air force, its commander in chief stressed, is to maintain battle readiness and security at a level which guarantees fulfillment of the tasks of the Russian Federation's military doctrine. The major task of the Russian Air Force for 1994 is creating air force groups in operational-strategic sectors which have become dangerous, improving the combat, mobilization, operational, and professional training of personnel and reducing the effective combat and numerical strength to the set levels while simultaneously achieving optimum ratios between combat and support constituents in the structure of the air force.

"Russia's Air Force has been enlarged by a new air component. By decision of Russia's president and in accordance with the order of the defense minister the frontline air force [frontovaya aviatsiya] has been set up. The decision to set up this component was made in line with Russia's new military doctrine which was announced in November last year. The frontline air force will consist of 70 percent of MiG-29 and Su-27 combat aircraft and also several types of fighter-bombers who now are part of the air force of Russia's Defense Ministry. The frontline air force will be subordinated to the command formed on the basis of the air force staff of the Moscow military district. Air Force Lieutenant General Nikolay Antoshkin has been appointed commander of the frontline air force".

Discrepancies Seen in Armed Forces Strength

MK0102144094 Moscow MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS in Russian 1 Feb 94 p 1

[Unattributed report: "How Many Dead Souls Are There in Our Army?"]

[Text] It seems that even the Defense Ministry chiefs do not know the actual strength of the Russian Armed Forces.

In response to inquiries from the presidential staff, the government, and public organizations about the number of our servicemen, three of our highest-ranking generals gave different figures. Moreover, the gap between the figures amounts to over 20 divisions.

Dmitriy Volkogonov said just before his removal from the post of presidential military adviser that 1.8 million men serve in the Russian Armed Forces. Colonel General Mikhail Kolesnikov, chief of General Staff, divulged that the Armed Forces include a total of 2.1 million servicemen. Defense Ministry Pavel Grachev, however, said that at present the Armed Forces are 2.341 million men strong.

Defense Industry Body Discusses Arms Exports

PM0102144194 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 1 Feb 94 p 2

["Military Review" article by Igor Chernyak: "Military-Industrial Complex: Load Tanks With Aircraft. Will Russia Get Back Billions of Dollars from Arms Exports?"]

[Text] A session of the Russian Federation State Committee for the Defense Sectors of Industry [Goskomoboronprom] Collegium was held last week. The main question being the results of exports of arms, military hardware, and civilian output from the military-industrial complex, and the prospects for the future. Unprecedentedly, in addition to the committee leadership, leading Russian weapons designers, and directors of the major weapons manufacturing enterprises, journalists too were invited to the collegium session, which would recently have been considered secret. Oleg Nikiforov, head of the Goskomoboronprom Main Directorate for Foreign Economic Activity, delivered the report. According to him, arms exports are today becoming a top-priority for military-industrial complex enterprises since, following the drastic reduction in Defense Ministry orders, defense sectors derive money for conversion and internal needs mainly from exports.

In 1993 representatives of the aviation, radio, missile-space, and shipbuilding industries operated most successfully on the foreign arms market. There was a decline in arms industry indicators as well as munitions and special chemicals. Over the year Goskomoboronprom delegations went to 31 countries for talks on arms exports and 186 meetings were held in Moscow, as a result of which a number of protocols and agreements were signed and licenses issued granting the right to trade with 26 countries (there were previously 47 of these countries) worth 40 percent more than in 1992. The largest customers for Russian Goskomoboronprom military and civil equipment were Hungary, India, China, Iran, the United Arab Emirates [UAE], Syria, and Turkey. Some $543 million were received for exports of civilian output (88.4 percent of the 1992 level), which amounts to one-fourth of total export revenue. It is forecast that in 1994 total Russian revenue via the Goskomoboronprom will rise to $4 billion.

It was particularly emphasized that last year Russia succeeded in making a mighty breakthrough in an area previously closed to it—arms fairs—and exhibited military-industrial complex output in a number of countries—from West Europe to the Persian Gulf and Southeast Asia. According to Nikiforov, all this gives reason to hope that the situation will gradually start to improve over the next few years following the collapse in 1992 and the lack of decline in 1993.

However, in subsequent speeches by a number of general designers and directors of military-industrial complex enterprises some doubts were voiced over such an optimistic forecast. Regrettably, not everything depends on development and production personnel. According to General Designer Arkadiy Shipunov, in arms exports Russia is at the moment living off its old achievements. However, compared with previous years research and development funding dropped by a factor of 10-15 and in five years the country runs the risk of finding itself unable to offer anything new. "For instance, we recently held talks with one country and they told us bluntly: We will only buy things from you that we cannot find in the West. We have increasingly few of these products," Shipunov said.

A second factor that has jeopardized Russian arms exports is the accompanying switch to world prices of energy sources and the rapid rise in the prime cost of military-industrial complex output. The result is that, whereas previously goods were taken by virtue of their relative cheapness, now they may be even more costly than their Western counterparts.

A third factor is the extremely difficult situation that has arisen with the production of munitions, the range of which is steadily tending to decrease. It will soon be simply impossible to produce some types of so-called artillery rounds in Russia. And even the most state-of-the-art aircraft and ships cannot be sold without ammunition and arms for the aircraft and ships.

The collegium repeatedly criticized the ill-conceived system of customs duties and taxes, which has resulted in total deductions sometimes exceeding the value of the output.

The extremely harsh criticism of certain leading military manufacturers regarding the quality of their products is also worthy of note In particular, "Kurganmashzavod," which supplies the UAE with infantry fighting vehicles, came in for criticism: The Arabs recently complained about the quality of the armor. The upshot being, in the opinion of the Goskomoboronprom leadership that all future military-technical cooperation with the Gulf countries may be in jeopardy. "We made a considerable breakthrough in the UAE, but if we operate like that, we will

shortly not have a presence there," Goskomoboronprom Chairman Viktor Glukhikh said. "You realize that it was not 'Kurganmashzavod' that made the breakthrough into the Gulf, but the whole country. Boys from the Defense Ministry worked in the desert till they dropped, dozens of people held talks at various levels. But the plant has now forgotten everything and is trying to earn a faster buck. I realize that it is hard to tailor vehicles to specific Gulf conditions, but we will not nonetheless permit this approach."

And there is another factor. Civilian output comprises three-fourths of the total output of Russia's military-industrial complex, while military output makes up the remaining one-fourth. However, the ratio is reversed in exports—sales of weapons and military hardware account for 75 percent of revenue. That was why the committee's deputy chairman, Gennadiy Yanpolskiy, said that one of the main tasks for 1994 is to bring "nonmilitary" output up to a competitive level.

In the opinion of the committee's specialists, major state support is needed in order for the planned escape from the crisis in exports of arms and military hardware to be feasible. Measures proposed include adopting programs for Russian military cooperation with foreign countries and foreign economic activity in the sphere of civilian output, providing export incentives by creating attractive terms in the spheres of finance, credit, tax, customs, investment, and price, and simplifying the system for exports of spare parts. And, importantly, it is finally time to give military-industrial complex enterprises the right to autonomously export arms and military hardware that is manufactured over and above the state order.

One last point. In our view, it would be a good thing for certain other departments, the Defense Ministry in particular, which has shrouded itself in a tight veil of secrecy, to learn from the Goskomoboronprom's openness. However, practice shows that trivial breaches of the law and departmental anarchy often lurk behind this veil. In spite of everything, secret Defense Ministry materials vanish westward, not to mention the strictly internal information that floods into newspapers like grain from a holey sack.

Audit Exposes Flaws in Military Trading System

PM0202093994 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 29 Jan 94 p 2

[Unattributed report under the "In the Russian Federation Defense Ministry" rubric: "The Time Has Come for Military Trading System To Reorganize Itself Too"]

[Text] In view of numerous complaints about trade and consumer services in military garrisons, the Russian Federation defense minister has decided to check the financial, economic, and production activity of the Ministry of Defense Main Trade Directorate. This task was assigned to the Main Military Budget and Finance Directorate.

The audit, which was carried out in a number of districts and at central supply and purchasing bases and industrial enterprises in the military trading system, exposed a number of blatant violations of existing legislation on entrepreneurial activity, of financial and executive discipline, and of regulations governing the conduct of trade. The wide-ranging economic rights granted in recent years to military trade organs in the center and provinces have not been properly exercised to improve the quality of trade and consumer services to servicemen and their families. The necessary radical measures to reform the military trading system have simply not been taken.

Despite the fact that, following the Union's disintegration, the number of enterprises has sharply decreased and the number of personnel in the military trading system has been halved, an unjustifiably cumbersome and ramified structure for administering it has been preserved to this day. With the organization of direct ties between military trade enterprises and suppliers, many supply and purchasing bases have been left with practically no work. But the chronic shortage of circulating capital and the poor stocking of stores with essential goods have not prompted the Ministry of Defense Main Trade Directorate to cut superfluous levels or identify ways to economize. On the contrary, administration organs' establishments are inordinately inflated, while their staffers—officers and civilian personnel—have received premiums exceeding their basic pay in addition to their wages.

It has become the practice to hold back at bases the most popular goods in order to sell them for less than their market value in inflationary conditions through the trade network to a narrow circle of people, which has caused indignation and complaints among servicemen. Considerable sums of money have been diverted into nontrading activities. A total of around 20 billion rubles was deposited in bank savings accounts, which adversely affected the procurement of industrial and food goods for sale in stores.

In all military districts and fleets instances of giving consumers short measure and overcharging them, concealing scarce goods, and deliberate inflation of prices have been discovered. Overcharging occurred in one-half of the control purchases made. These outrages were most prevalent in the Pacific Fleet, the Siberian Military District, and the Western Group of Forces.

Work to bring down the cost of food is not being conducted actively enough. Even when, under the defense minister's directive No. D-34, military units and institutions are providing the military trading system with transport, premises, and free electricity, fuel, water, and other utilities, the cost of food in military trade cafeterias remains very high, and in a number of cases higher than in the open public catering network. For example, in Volgograd Garrison (North Caucasus Military District) prices in military trade cafeterias were 1.2-1.6 times higher than prices in the city's cafeterias. It is no accident that lately the number of officers and staffers using military trade cafeterias has decreased by between one-third and one-half.

The Russian defense minister has issued an order based on the results of the audit of the military trading system's financial and economic work. It notes the aforementioned and other serious shortcomings, punishes the culprits, and

outlines radical organizational and economic measures to improve the military trading system's activity forthwith. This question will be discussed in the near future at a Defense Ministry Collegium session.

Decree on Finance, Backup for Military Justice Organs

PM0202105794 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 1 Feb 94 First Edition p 4

[Decree No. 32 of the Russian Federation Government dated Moscow, 24 January 1994 and signed by Russian Federation Government Chairman V. Chernomyrdin: "On Resource Provision for Military Courts and Organs of Military Justice"]

[Text] For the purposes of ensuring the necessary operating conditions for military courts and organs of military justice, the Russian Federation Government decrees:

1. Until a legislative act in respect of military courts has been brought into force, the Russian Federation Ministry of Defense is to be entrusted with the funding, the supplying, and the material, technical, and other backup of military courts, the Military Collegium of the Russian Federation Supreme Court, and the Military Courts Administration of the Russian Federation Ministry of Justice.

2. The Russian Federation Ministry of Finance is to ensure the allocation of the necessary appropriations to the Russian Federation Ministry of Defense for the said purposes.

3. The Russian Federation Ministry of Justice, together with the Russian Federation Ministry of Defense and the Russian Federation Ministry of Finance, is to prepare within one month proposals for regularizing the pay of servicemen who are military court judges with due regard for Russian Federation legislation.

[Signed] V. Chernomyrdin, chairman of the Russian Federation Government
[Dated] 24 January 1994

Federal Assembly

Rybkin, Yeltsin Discuss Cooperation With State Duma

LD0102134694 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1259 GMT 1 Feb 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tamara Zamyatina]

[Text] Moscow February 1 TASS—Ivan Rybkin, speaker of the State Duma (lower chamber of the Russian parliament), presented President Boris Yeltsin with a bouquet of red roses, since Yeltsin's name-day is on Tuesday [1 February].

ITAR-TASS learnt from Valeriy Gerasimov, head of the State Duma's office, that "the meeting between the two lasted 45 minutes instead of the planned ten". The sides discussed cooperation between the president and the lower house.

Asked by ITAR-TASS about the meaning of the notion "succession of the State Duma" which will be debated at the Duma's session this Friday, Gerasimov replied that "we mean succession from pre-revolutionary time, since the present State Duma is not the first in Russian history".

According to Gerasimov, legislators intend to study valuable experience accumulated by Russian dumas before and after 1917, mindful also of positive achievements of the former Russian parliament.

Gerasimov refuted rumours about a possible intention by the State Duma to put forth property claims, saying that the lower chamber intends to dissociate itself from petty property issues.

According to Gerasimov, the State Duma will deal only with projects which cannot be financed from local budgets, including the State Duma library in St. Petersburg as well as the Tavricheskiy Palace in the same city where interparliamentary assemblies of the Commonwealth of Independent States are held.

Federation Council Elects Heads of Committees

LD0102151994

[Editorial Report] Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian at 1320 GMT on 1 February broadcasts a report by Aleksandr Ruvinskiy in the studio. He says that many Federation Council deputies came to Chekhov St. to pay their last respects to actor Yevgeniy Leonov. As there was no morning session the deputies had plenty of spare time. They spent the time holding the first organizational sessions of committees and commissions of the Federation Council.

Whereas, he says, in the Duma, the Duma Council met and agreed on who would head the committees, these people were ratified by overall vote and then each deputy could register in one committee or another.

On the other hand, here in the Federation Council it was different. First, the composition of the actual committees was formed, and then within these committees the deputies themselves elected their own chairmen. This is because a factional party principle does not operate in the Federation Council.

There were some surprises, Ruvinskiy continues. Vyacheslav Zvolinskiy became chairman of the Agrarian Committee. He is director of the scientific production association Nizhnyaya Volga in Astrakhan. On this committee are such deputies as Vasiliy Starodubtsev, [Vyacheslav] Lyubimov from Ryazan, an active member of the Communist Party, and others. Today, the first session of the committee was held.

The first session of the Committee for Budget and Finance was also held. On this committee, deputies elected Nikolay Gonchar as their chairman, former chairman of Mossovet. Also on this committee are such deputies as Yuriy Boldyrev, well-known from the Congress of USSR People's Deputies and the Supreme Soviet.

Ruvinskiy then speaks to Boldyrev. He says that Boldyrev told him that he considers one of his main tasks as being to do everything necessary to fight corruption. He thinks a chamber of accounts should be set up and there should be a law on responsibility of government members for non-implementation of legislation and for inappropriate expenditure.

Ruvinskiy and the announcer discuss the question of extending the emergency in North Ossetia and Ingushetia.

Federation Council Members Differ on Crimea

MK0102112094 Moscow MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS in Russian 1 Feb 94 p 1

[Yuriy Zaynashev report under the general headline: "Crimea: Kiev Is Preparing an Attack, Russia Prefers To Abstain"]

[Text] Yesterday, the Federation Council in Moscow discussed the Crimean issue only in the lobby. In an interview for MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS, Eduard Rossel, the failed governor of the Urals Republic, waved his hand enthusiastically: "Crimea is a Russian land, and I favor its being reclaimed by Russia as soon as possible." When asked by MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS how much time the construction of a dam or a bridge across the Kerch strait will take, Mr. Rossel, of German origin, revealed that he knew firms that could cope with such an order fairly quickly. The bridge that would connect the Russian Federation with Crimea could be built vertically and lowered later when the situation allows. The cautious Nikolay Gonchar, guarding his reputation as a centrist, said that Crimean President Yuriy Meshkov is a good and calm person, but that Moscow and Kiev should touch upon the Crimean issue very carefully so as not to carry matters to the brink of war. Mr. Gonchar called on both the president and the Federation Council to agree on a common stand on the Crimean issue so as not to transplant local passions to Moscow. Formerly, the stances of the president and the Russian Supreme Soviet regarding Crimea were diametrically opposed, a fact that was skillfully exploited by Crimean extremists.

Parliament Will Not Repeat 'Mistakes' on Crimea

LD0102172894 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1650 GMT 1 Feb 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Pavel Kuznetsov]

[Text] Moscow February 1 TASS—Russia's new parliament will not repeat the mistakes of the previous legislature and avoid extremist declarations on the situation in the Crimea, Vice Chairman of the Russian Parliamentary Committee on Commonwealth Affairs Vyacheslav Igrunov told ITAR-TASS Tuesday [1 February], commenting on the results of the presidential elections in the peninsula.

He evidently referred to the extremist statement of former legislature to declare the major Black Sea Fleet base in the Crimea, the port of Sevastopol, as Russian territory.

However, Russia should increase its political activity in the peninsula and be a guarantor of the stability in this autonomous republic of Ukraine, Igrunov stressed.

He welcomed the idea of establishing a Russian consulate or a permanent mission of the Russian parliament in Simferopol, the Crimean administrative centre. The parliamentarian also spoke in favour of the exchange of lawmakers' delegations between Russia and the Crimea.

Kiev should only praise such cooperation, as Moscow is not interested in the Crimean separatism, he stressed. Igrunov believes Ukraine should prefer the civilized cooperation with Russia to "an endless tug-of-war".

The parliamentarian said that he had just returned from the Crimea and Kiev after the on-spot examination of the situation. According to him, the first popularly elected president of the autonomy, Yuriy Meshkov should avoid hasty steps and rely on the renowned local politicians and parliament leaders.

Federation Chamber Discusses Draft Regulation Amendments

LD0202104294 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1025 GMT 2 Feb 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Lyudmila Aleksandrova]

[Text] Moscow February 2 TASS— The Federation Council (upper chamber of the Russian Parliament) started debating on Wednesday amendments to its draft regulations. The editing commission made 173 amendments to the draft.

Two amendments were made by the Russian president. He proposed that the upper chamber should take into account, when voting, the total number of Federation Council members (178 under the constitution) and not the number of elected legislators (171) if the chamber votes on such decisions as release from the posts of upper chamber speaker and his depties as well as elections of members of upper chamber committees.

The presidential amendments were turned down.

The Federation Council continues discussing the draft regulations, and, to all appearances, the debate will take the rest of the day.

Duma Official on Economic Problems, Crime

LD0102195094 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1555 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Unscheduled interview with Valentin Kovalev, deputy chairman of the State Duma, by correspondent V.Perfilyev; place and date not given—live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [Perfilyev] Valentin Alekseyevich, the State Duma is to continue its work tomorrow. So, what are the priority aims you are setting yourselves?

[Kovalev] The first package of bills the State Duma will adopt urgently concerns the economic sphere of our state's life. What concept are we proceeding from in doing this?

Nowhere in the world is there such a thing as a free market, an absolutely free market. Therefore, if we strive for a free market, we are going nowhere—mankind has long gone elsewhere. There exists a regulated market, and moreover, I am going to utter a word which is not at all popular in our country at the moment—a market which can be planned. [passage omitted]

It is important to overcome the crisis resulting from nonpayments; it is important to restore economic ties that have been severed. If necessary, the question of the composition of enterprises may be raised. [passage omitted]

Now about some of our plans in more detail. It happens that the military-industrial complex plays an important role in our country's economy. One can be critical of such an orientation of our economy in the past, but nevertheless this is a fact which we cannot disregard. Therefore, our goal is to rebuild the high technology market and to reestablish our status on the world market.

[Perfilyev] Judging by your attitude to economic issues and to how reforms should be carried out, the State Duma should have no problems with the government and with the policy of reform currently being pursued by Viktor Chernomyrdin?

[Kovalev] The Russian Federation State Duma will have its own point of view on these issues. As for the new government, we are planning to hear a report of the chairman of the Council of Ministers on this matter. I think this will help to clarify many points and to determine the Duma's standpoint with regard to the present government and to the economic development of the country as a whole. [passage omitted]

We also have a number of questions to the government, some of them not too pleasant. One of them concerns privatization. We consider that the issue of privatization should be viewed from a broader angle. [passage omitted] We consider that other forms of reorganization and denationalization are possible. More specifically, a large group of deputies believes that the fixed capital of enterprises could be transferred to work collectives which would be responsible for its operational management, while the products made by those work collectives should certainly be their property and be fully owned and disposable by them.

[Perfilyev] Valentin Alekseyevich, many officials in our country have undertaken to fight crime but somehow their attempts have always fallen through. Will the State Duma be able to do anything in this respect?

[Kovalev] I can give you my own view on why those laws have never worked. The reason is that they have not been aimed to affect the causes and conditions from which crime springs. [passage omitted] Our viewers should know that issues of fighting crime are in the focus of attention of the State Duma. At this time we are preparing a large package of special proposals aimed at combating corruption and fighting organized crime. Possibly as soon as next Friday we shall discuss a number of amendments and additions to the criminal code. The amendments will include expanding the limits of self-defense [weapons and devices]

[Perfilyev] You attend all the sessions and have inside information about the life of the State Duma. Would you like to sketch a collective potrait of the State Duma for our viewers?

[Kovalev] The people who have been elected are people who act and not just talk. They know how to work and how to translate their words into deeds. So I think the Duma has very good prospects.

Regional Affairs

Kozyrev Reassures North Caucasus Leaders

PM0202090194 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Feb 94 First Edition p 4

[Boris Vinogradov report: "Andrey Kozyrev: Russia Is Not Creating a New Military Alliance in the Caucasus"]

[Text] The Russian President's trip to Georgia will be B. Yeltsin's first official visit to a Commonwealth state, leaving aside his fleeting visit to Ashgabat and his talks with Saparmurad Niyazov.

The political nuances of the visit were examined at Andrey Kozyrev's conference with North Caucasus leaders. As the minister remarked, this is a major step aimed at implementing a strategic line in the Caucasus, which Russia has traditionally regarded as a zone of its geopolitical interests. Russia would not like to have on its border a state torn apart by internal conflicts and drowning in economic chaos and crime.

The preconditions for establishing cooperation have been created. Georgia has become a member of the CIS and the Collective Security Council. But it remains the only neighbor with which Moscow does not have a framework treaty on the bases of relations or agreements on border questions. The Russian delegation is taking a set of these documents with it to Tbilisi, where it intends to sign them. There is nothing in them that conflicts with the interests of the North Caucasus republics. They have no grounds for suspecting that any kind of "military-political alliance" is being prepared between Russia and Georgia against Abkhazia, the minister stressed.

One of the main tasks of the visit is to promote the settlement of conflicts in Abkhazia and South Ossetia.

Andrey Kozyrev pointed out that in principle Russia has decided to conduct peace-keeping operations in Abkhazia and intends to seek the participation of UN and CSCE international observers in it. The minister recognized at this point that Russia bears the main burden of the peacemaking work and the protection of people's lives, Georgia's sovereignty, and the rights of the ethnic minorities.

Urban Residents Show Trust in Chernomyrdin, Gaydar

MK0102113094 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 1 Feb 94 p 2

[Report by Vladimir Shokorev, from the All-Russia Center for the Study of Public Opinion, under the "Survey"

rubric: "The Population Denied Confidence Neither to the Premier, Nor to Yegor Gaydar"]

[Text] The population's first reaction to the government crisis, or more precisely, to Yegor Gaydar's quitting the post of vice premier, was indifference. This sense prevails over all others in a little bit more than a third of those polled. It can be added that some 10 percent found it hard to answer the question on what they felt about Yegor Gaydar's quitting. Anxiety was experienced by 18 percent, distress by 15 percent. The main feeling in 17 percent was satisfaction, and if one takes into account the fact that nearly half of them are supporters of communists and national patriots, that feeling is quite deep.

The answers to the question on confidence in some political leaders asked in the same All-Russia Center for the Study of Public Opinion survey can be divided into two parts: the number of those who answered or did not answer the question on trusting a political leader, and the correlation between trusting and mistrusting. The first parameter seems to be as significant as the second one. Whereas the trust-mistrust balance is in the positive area, with more than half the respondents unable to say what they thought about the leaders, the result obtained seems to be doubtful.

The trust-mistrust correlation and the known-unknown degree for all the leaders are represented below [diagram omitted]. The group of Grigoriy Yavlinskiy-Viktor Chernomyrdin-Boris Yeltsin-Yegor Gaydar is unified by the rather high degree of their being "well- known." The distribution of views about Grigoriy Yavlinskiy evinces what can be termed as the "Yavlinskiy phenomenon." He is trusted by twice as many people as those who do not trust him; nearly 35 percent, however, did not say what they thought about him.

The prime minister's position appears to be ideal in the positive area with a rather low share of those who found the question hard to answer. The poll, however, had been conducted even before the final composition of the government was announced. The Boris Yeltsin- Yegor Gaydar crew remained in the minds of the respondents for some time after 20 January. Despite Mr. Gaydar's resignation, his name remains associated with the president's course.

The other group is Andrey Kozyrev-Boris Fedorov. They are united by a positive trust-mistrust correlation, and a big number of those who found the question hard to answer. Vladimir Shumeyko and Anatoliy Chubays are found in the negative area with approximately the same number of those who assessed their activities.

Two figures—Gennadiy Burbulis and Gennadiy Zyuganov—are found separately, and way below them is Vladimir Zhirinovskiy, whose scandalous fame makes him known to a great number of respondents. Only 17 percent trust him, however, while 63 percent do not. Way down on the extreme right of the scale is newly elected State Duma speaker Ivan Rybkin. The number of those who did not answer the question on trusting him is two-thirds of those polled, whereas the trust-mistrust correlation lies in the negative area.

	trust	do not trust	hard to say
1. Yavlinskiy	46	23	32
2. Yeltsin	44	40	16
3. Gaydar	42	41	19
4. Chernomyrdin	41	33	27
5. Shakhray	37	30	33
6. Kozyrev	34	26	40
7. Fedorov	29	28	43
8. Shumeyko	28	35	38
9. Chubays	27	38	37
10. Zyuganov	19	42	39
11. Burbulis	17	39	46
12. Zhirinovskiy	17	63	20
13. Rybkin	11	20	67

[The poll was conducted 21 through 25 January 1993 and involved 1,600 urban residents]

Leningrad Oblast Replaces Village Soviets With Volosts

MK0102133094 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 1 Feb 94 p 2

["RIA" untitled report]

[Text] Petersburg—Leningrad Oblast residents will now have to get used to new names of the territories of former village soviets—they will be called volosts, "in the old fashion." Under the directive of oblast administration head Aleksandr Belyakov, 219 volosts have been formed to replace 230 village soviets. Executive power in them will be exercised by headmen [starosta]. The oblast administration is also receding into the past: It is being transformed into the government of Leningrad Oblast. The head of the administration becomes chairman of the Council of Ministers and simultaneously governor, while his four deputies are elevated to the rank of vice premiers. Instead of departments, ministries are now being created. For the time being the territory of Leningrad Oblast will retain administrative rayons to be led by the rayon administration. But the new government does not rule out the possibility that they will in time be transformed into uyezds.

Ossetian, Ingush Leaders on Aspects of Conflict

LD0102184994

[Editorial Report] Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian at 1521 GMT on 1 February carries a "Path to Accord" program, which examines the continuing problem of ensuring the return of people displaced by the conflict between North Ossetia and Ingushetia. In the first 11 minutes of the program, the announcer interviews ordinary people on both sides of the conflict, some of them refugees. The program then shows alternating excerpts of separate interviews with North Ossetian President Akhsarbek Galazov and President of Ingushetia Ruslan Aushev.

In his interview, Galazov denies that any interethnic conflict has occurred in North Ossetia, saying that what happened was "an aggression by Ingush national extremists." Aushev says on this topic: "The motives behind this conflict were to push out the Ingush, carry out ethnic cleansing, then to declare that coexistence was impossible, and then to play at these lengthy negotiations."

Galazov says: "North Ossetia is, essentially, the only republic, not just in the North Caucasus but in the Caucasus as a whole, to which so-called Russian-speaking people flee. Today we have approximately 50,000 refugees. These are refugees from Georgia, from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Abkhazia, Chechnya, and Ingushetia, and this fact alone probably says much." Aushev says that but for the housing problem the influx of Russian-speaking refugees into his republic would be more intensive. He claims that Ingushetia has done more for its ethnic minorities than Ossetia, for instance by guaranteeing them a set number of seats in parliament.

Asked if he regards the tens of thousands of Ingush refugees who fled from North Ossetia to Ingushetia as citizens of his republic, Galazov disputes the numbers and questions whether all of them were refugees, adding: "I believe that the Kislovodsk agreement is a very reasonable agreement and it should be implemented in full. There must be an investigation into who was not involved in the bloody tragedy which was committed on the territory of North Ossetia. After all, no one even fired from a toy catapult on the territory of the Ingush Republic. The tragedy occurred on the territory of North Ossetia and the North Ossetian side, that is the leadership and public organizations and movements can bear no responsibility whatsoever for what occurred."

On the question of whether the two peoples could live together, Aushev says: "Whoever does not wish to live with the Ingush is free to leave. All the more so, since they have been living in other people's houses since 1944. According to highland customs, they should really have long since asked forgiveness of the Ingush for moving into their homes and should have left, as was done in Georgia, Dagestan, and Stavropol Kray."

Asked about the idea of joint ownership of the disputed territory, Galazov says that he finds such attempts to resolve the problem at a stroke "unacceptable," and adds: "In actual fact there is no disputed territory in North Ossetia. Prigorodnyy Rayon, like all the other rayons of North Ossetia, is an integral part of the Republic of North Ossetia. And according to the constitution of the Russian Federation and our constitution, the whole territory of North Ossetia is at the disposal of the multinational people of that republic alone. Neither the president nor the Supreme Soviet [as heard] has the right to do anything with this territory. And I would ask both the leadership of the Russian Federation, and moreover the leadership of the Ingush Republic, to stop conducting experiments."

Aushev says that his attitude to people's ideas is positive "as long as they produce results" and adds: "I believe that at this stage we should not be talking about new formulae. The first stage should be a stage of people returning to their homes and a stabilization of the situation to the level of October 1992."

Galazov says: "The impossibility of the coexistence of Ingush, Ossetians, and representatives of other nationalities is not an Ossetian nor a Russian invention. This is something which people of Ingush nationality have proved in practice." On this same subject, Aushev says: "This is a fascist slogan. How can one speak of the impossibility of one living with another?"

In conclusion, Galazov says: "All conflicts on this planet will sooner or later be resolved peacefully. There is no other way. But I believe that events should not be hastened because any use of force, any attempt to settle the problem immediately will result in more tragedy, will result in more bloodshed and human victims."

Aushev concludes: "In order to emerge from this conflict we need to live strictly according to the law and to the constitution and to observe human rights."

Vladimir Lozovoy, head of the Interim Administration on the territories of North Ossetia and Ingushetia, rounds up the program by saying that the only way to settle the conflict and reconcile people is by political methods. He adds: "I believe the main thing today is for the leaders of these two republics to sit down at the negotiating table and work out there what each side should do, not only to extinguish but also to settle the conflict and to begin returning people to their previous homes."

Chechens Seek To Free Khasbulatov

PM0202103594 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 1 Feb 94 First Edition p 2

[Gennadiy Gypylov report: "Chechnya Continues Efforts To Get Khasbulatov Released"]

[Text] Chita—Chechnya continues its diplomatic moves to secure the release from the Lefortovo detention center of former Russian parliamentary speaker Ruslan Khasbulatov, who is regarded in the republic as having been unlawfully arrested. This was reported in an INTERFAX interview on Thursday by Eduard Khashkayev, a member of the Chechnya cabinet.

In Khashkayev's opinion, the October events in Moscow resulted from "a whole series of unlawful actions committed by the Russian leadership, which was opposed by Ruslan Khasbulatov, who strictly complied with all the provisions of the then Russian Federation Constitution."

Chechen State Counselor Ruslan Akhtakhanov, who took part in the conversation with the INTERFAX correspondent, stated that denying Ruslan Khasbulatov, who is a citizen of Chechnya, the opportunity to run for election to the Russian Federation Federal Assembly is regarded by the republic's population as another violation of human rights by Moscow officialdom.

International Affairs

Military Said To Break Tripartite Nuclear Accord

MK2801112094 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 28 Jan 94 p 1

[Pavel Felgengauer report in the "Confrontation" column: "As of February, Ukraine Will Begin To Remove 490 Warheads to Its Own Bases. The Russian Army Is Preparing To Evacuate Missile Troop Officers"]

[Text] The joint Russian-U.S.-Ukrainian agreement of 14 January on the terms for the abolition of the "Ukrainian" nuclear weapons, signed in Moscow by the three presidents, has apparently not proved more long-lasting than previous such accords. A week after the ink had dried on the Moscow declaration, the Ukrainian Defense Ministry began, without any coordination with Moscow, an operation of actually seizing the strategic nuclear weapons.

On 21 January Army General Lieutenant Vladimir Mikhtyuk, commander of the 43d Missile Army, and also the commanders of the 46th (Pervomayskaya) and 19th (Khmelnitskaya) missile divisions were summoned to Kiev to a session of the Ukrainian Defense Ministry Collegium "on matters of military discipline and training." The army commander reported this to Moscow, to the Main Command of the Strategic Rocket Forces (SRF), because under an order that has been in effect for 33 years, the SRF army or division commander may not leave his unit without permission from the SRF commander in chief. In Kiev, however, the generals were suddenly ordered to swear the Ukrainian oath of allegiance. Gen. Mikhtyuk and Nikolay Filatov, commander of the 46th Division, under what one of the participants in the conference described as tough pressure, swore the Ukrainian oath. Rustam Karimov, commander of the 19th division, refused.

After that, the 43d Missile Army was actually placed outside the SRF Main Command's operational control. General Karimov has been removed from the post of division commander and is to fly to Moscow within the next few days. Today or tomorrow a new, "Ukrainian" commander will arrive at the 19th Missile Division who will be appointed by the Ukrainian defense minister without any coordination with Moscow. The SRF Command stated that they do not even know the new commander's name. Prior to that, during the last two years, all cadre reshuffles in the missile troops in Ukraine were made only by a joint order after they were coordinated in Moscow and Kiev.

On 22 January the Ukrainian defense minister signed Order 001 (classified as top secret) whereby the troops of the 43d Army must be prepared as of 1 February to begin removing the nuclear ammunition from the depots of the 19th and 46th divisions (all in all, 490 units) to "S" installations, from where Russian specialists were withdrawn last year and where the Ukrainian Defense Ministry has deployed its own nuclear units, manned partly by officers of the 12th Main Directorate of the Russian Defense Ministry who stayed in Ukraine and partly by reserve officers. Colonel General Igor Smirnov, SRF commander in chief, sent a coded telegram to the Ukrainian defense minister expressing in a polite form his professional concern over the situation, but has not received any answer yet.

The SRF Main Command is currently making preparations for an urgent evacuation to Russia of all missile officers who refuse to swear the Ukrainian oath. According to SRF Main Command estimates, between 40 and 50 percent of the officers will leave. The divisions will become combat-incapable, the combat duty system will be disrupted, and political confrontation in missile unit crews between "pro-Ukrainian" and "pro-Russian" officers is possible.

Up until now Russia has been rendering the 43d Army technical assistance in maintaining its entire extremely complex strategic missile systems while officers have been undergoing regular retraining within the SRF framework. Now supplies and technical assistance for the army have been stopped. The Russian military is no longer in control of the situation. It believes that it has done everything possible within its jurisdiction and that now the problem of the Ukrainian nuclear weapons will again have to be decided by politicians in Moscow, Kiev, and Washington.

New Parliament To Consider Ratifying NPT

LD0102204994 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1828 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] Ratification of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons [NPT] will be the responsibility of the new Ukrainian parliament, Parliamentary Chairman Ivan Plyushch said.

First of all, "we will have to see how the trilateral statement by the presidents of Ukraine, Russia and the United States and the supplement to it are implemented," Plyushch told reporters in Kiev on Tuesday.

Official Says Russia Will Deliver Oil, Gas

AU0102121994 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 29 Jan 94 p 1

[Valentyna Pysanska report: "Energy Sources: Payment Is the Only Problem"]

[Text] According to Mykhaylo Kovalko, chairman of the State Committee for Oil and Gas, the situation that is presently taking shape with regard to oil and gas extraction in Ukraine, deliveries from Russia, as well as processing looks hopeful. At a recent news conference, he said that the branch had completed the past year successfully. The situation with the extraction of oil and gas had stabilized and the rates of construction had not decreased.

Agreements have been signed on the deliveries of natural gas from Russia in amounts similar to last year's; agreements on oil deliveries will be signed soon.

Do not ask me about prices or tariffs, because they constitute a commercial secret. I will only say that the agreement is mutually advantageous and will enable our

national economy to function successfully. If only there are funds—there will be energy sources!

This year, it is planned to purchase 32 million tonnes of oil from Russia. The Committee for Material Resources will be in charge of the deliveries—partly through direct purchases and also in accordance with so-called Surgut [geographical name] agreements. A large part of the deliveries will be made through the group of companies "Nordex," which, last year, pumped 1.74 million tonnes of oil, for which Ukraine has a debt of $123 million.

The committee pins great hopes upon the implementation of the national program "Oil and Gas by the Year 2010," which specifies priorities in the development of the branch.

Official on Result of U.S. Visit, Kozyrev Remark

LD0102211294 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1947 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] Kiev "has felt positive changes in the U.S. position towards Ukraine." This was said by Director of the president's service on international affairs, Anton Buteyko, at a briefing on the results of the Ukrainian governmental delegation's visit to the U.S. in Kiev on Tuesday [1 February].

In his opinion, the signed documents reflected that the U.S. had finished the assessment and working out of the policy towards Ukraine. The joint communique and the supplementary documents underline that the U.S. will pay primary attention to the democratic and market reforms in Ukraine. The documents emphasize that Ukraine plays the role of a stabilizer in the region. That is why its political and economic security is of exceptional importance for the U.S. and Europe.

Buteyko believes that the U.S. party has decided to allot economic aid to Russia while taking into consideration these factors. In his words, the funds will be allotted for dismantling of nuclear and conventional weapons, for support of the agricultural reforms and for overcoming of the difficulties stemming from the transition period.

The briefing's organizers said that the sums of economic aid would be announced during the visit of the Ukrainian president to the U.S. planned for March, 1994.

Chief of the Ukrainian Foreign Ministry's Information Department, Yuriy Sergeyev, said that he had received the official authority to comment on the statement of Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev at the meeting on the foreign policy of CIS and Baltic States in Moscow. Kozyrev estimated the "defense of the rights of Russians in the neighboring states as one of Russia's priority strategic interests."

Sergeyev expressed Ukraine's deep concern over the tendency in Russia of toughning its foreign policy towards the new independent states.

According to Sergeyev, "Ukraine understands the necessity to defend human rights of people not living on their native territory and tries to guarantee all their rights including the one for a cultural autonomy." However, "we firmly stand against the intention of any state to resolve the issue on human rights of the nationalities living beyond its frontier."

In his words, Ukraine considered it unacceptable that other states' armed forces be on its territory and supported the demands that "all foreign troops" be withdrawn from Moldova and Baltic states.

Delegation's Achievements Reviewed

LD0102182494 Kiev UNIAR in Ukrainian 1630 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] Kiev, 1 Feb—At a regular briefing on current foreign policy issues at the Ukraine Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Anton Buteyko, head of the presidential service for international issues, informed those present about the course of the visit by the Ukrainian government delegation, headed by Economics Minister Roman Shpek, to the United States. In particular he emphasized that, having realized Ukraine's role and significance in the world, the Americans have changed their attitude to the republic.

In the course of talks, accord was achieved on a wide range of issues of bilateral cooperation, in particular on cooperation in the conversion sector, agriculture, and space development. A joint committee for conversion issues has been set up and 25 schemes have been prepared, including in particular a program for building accommodation for servicemen who will be released from the army as a result of the reduction in the armed forces of Ukraine.

A series of agreements and documents were also prepared, which are to be signed during the visit by Leonid Kravchuk to the United States, planned for March. These include agreements on protecting mutual investments, on avoiding dual taxation, and on bilateral economic cooperation. It is not ruled out that the American Senate will review the volume of economic assistance to Ukraine with a view to increasing it.

Anton Buteyko noted that the Ukrainian-American talks proceeded under the singular motto: "We do not want you to give us fish, we want you to teach us how to catch it." We hope that they will do so.

U.S. Firm To Build Nuclear Waste Storage Facilities

LD0102160694 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in English 0100 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] Ukraine appears to have secured at least a five decade respite from its insistent nuclear waste disposal headache caused by Russia's stubborn reluctance to admit Ukraine's nuclear fuel waste material to its reprocessing facilities now that the Zaporizhye nuclear power plant production association is reported to have signed a contract with the U.S. Duke Power company for construction of nuclear waste storage facilities. The contract materialized as a result of an international contest for nuclear waste disposal projects that the production association had to organize in view of the relevant governmental bodies' obvious indifference, inaction, and incompetence.

The contest reportedly drew participants and tenders from Germany, Britain, France, Canada, the United States, Spain, and [word indistinct]. The Zaporizhye nuclear power plant management chose the project drafted by the Duke engineering and service affiliates of the Duke Power company (?as specially) following the Ukrainian nuclear power industry's technological [word indistinct] and requirements. The project reportedly provides for storing used nuclear fuel cases in armored concrete cylinders. Despite their relative simplicity and cheapness, they are said to be both durable and reliable for storing fissionable materials, nuclear safety experts maintain. Currently, ecological and feasibility studies are under way in these sites. If everything goes well, the first storage facility is expected to be completed by late 1995. Similar storage facilities are being contemplated for construction at other Ukrainian nuclear power plants.

Zlenko: Russia Not Interested in Playing 'Crimean Card'

LD0102203494 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1600 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] I am convinced that the Russian side is not interested in aggravating relations or exploiting the so-called Crimean card. Anatoliy Zlenko, minister of foreign affairs of Ukraine, stated this in an interview for journalists. In his opinion, it is in the interest of Crimeans and in the interest of Ukraine as a whole to keep everything as it was prior to these elections. I believe, the head of the foreign policy department of our state emphasized, that politicians and those who took part in the Crimean presidential elections will have enough sense and strength of will not to complicate the situation.

Views Black Sea Fleet Talks

LD0102163094 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1446 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] The further talks concerning the Black Sea Fleet between Ukraine and Russia should be based largely on the Yalta Accords, Ukraine's Foreign Minister, Anatoliy Zlenko, told INTERFAX.

Solutions to this problem must not be sought "solely on the basis of the documents signed in Massandra," the minister said.

"The protocol signed in Massandra is only a protocol of intentions. It gives some opportunities for maneuver and search for the ways to resolve this problem, but there are also other agreements which should be taken into account during the talks," Ukraine's foreign minister said.

Under the Yalta Accords reached in 1992 between Presidents Leonid Kravchuk of Ukraine and Boris Yeltsin of Russia, the Black Sea Fleet was to serve as the basis for building Russia's Navy and Ukraine's Naval Forces. In the meantime, the Fleet was to be run by the two presidents.

On June 17, 1993, in Moscow, Yeltsin and Kravchuk signed another agreement, under which the Black Sea Fleet was to be divided between Russia and Ukraine equally.

On September 3, 1993, in the town of Massandra in Crimea, the two presidents signed an agreement under which Ukraine yielded its part of the Black Sea Fleet to Russia to cover its debt for the Russian fuel received by Ukrainian consumers earlier. The concrete mechanisms of compensation for the ships to be transferred to Russia and for the use of naval bases located in Crimea were to be devised during further talks. However talks on this issue became stalemated.

Therefore Zlenko's latest statement actually signifies Ukraine's departure from the Massandra agreements on transferring Ukraine's part of the Black Sea Fleet to Russia.

When asked by Interfax-Ukraine about the international aspect of the possible referendum on independence for Crimea, Zlenko said he hopes that "the people of Crimea will have enough restraint and common sense to refrain from developing an issue fraught with aggravating relations between Crimea and other nations."

"We must not allow an explosive situation to emerge," Zlenko said. "Russia is not interested in aggravating relations and using the Crimean card either," he pointed out.

Plyushch Discusses Nuclear Stance With Scandinavians

WS0202102194 Kiev Ukrayinske Radio First Program Network in Ukrainian 0600 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Report by Eduard Kotenko]

[Text] A meeting between Ukrainian Supreme Council Chairman Ivan Plyushch and Scandinavian diplomats has been held at the request of the latter. The meeting was attended by Danish Ambassador Christian Faber-Rod, Norwegian Ambassador Oyvind Nordsletten, Finnish Ambassador Erik Ulfstedt, and Swedish Ambassador Martin Halquist. The Swedish ambassador presented the Ukrainian legislative speaker with a letter reporting on a 25-26 February meeting of foreign ministers from Scandinavia and Iceland in Stockholm. The ministers discussed a number of issues, including European security. In the communique adopted on the results of the conference, the ministers hailed the tripartite Ukrainian-Russian-U.S. declaration signed on 14 January 1994 and the appendix to the declaration stipulating the dismantling of Ukraine's nuclear arsenal. The ministers pointed out that the implementation of these documents will significantly contribute to strengthening European security and the nonproliferation of nuclear arms. The ambassadors were instructed to inform the Ukrainian legislative chairman about that declaration and the unanimous support for the tripartite accord on the part of the governments of their states and Iceland. The governments also hope that the accord will be implemented soon. It was underlined that Ukraine should sign the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty in the immediate future.

In his turn, Ivan Plyushch provided an in-depth analysis of Ukraine's current economic and political situation, pointing out:

[Begin Plyushch recording] Ukraine has been facing three global problems—Chernobyl, conversion of the Army and the military-industrial complex, and the structural reshaping of the economy. [end recording]

The Supreme Council chairman answered his interlocutors' questions regarding, in particular, dates of practical implementation of the agreements reached with Russia and the United States. Ivan Plyushch emphasized that it is vital for Ukraine that the provisions of the declaration and its appendix be observed by all sides. This would correspond with the spirit of every document adopted in Moscow.

[Begin Plyushch recording] For me, the problem is: When will we begin receiving practical compensation? Thus far, we have not received a cent; thus far, these documents are just pieces of paper and simple discussions. [end recording]

At the end of the meeting, the Danish, Norwegian, Finnish, and Swedish ambassadors expressed hope that Ukraine's nonnuclear course will remain unchanged and asserted that their governments are ready to grant Ukraine multifold support.

National Affairs

Armed Forces To Be Reduced in 1994 Budget

LD0102220194 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 2030 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] Kiev—At the evening plenary session of the Supreme Council today [Speaker] Ivan Plyushch reported on the defense council meeting which took place on 31 January. The meeting came to the conclusion, Ivan Plyushch said, that the president and government should find sources for financing "a sensible number" of the armed forces of Ukraine. In connection with this a number of measures have been elaborated which will allow the number of personnel to be reduced by almost 100,000 persons and it is planned to conduct a substantial inventory of military property. After this the president and government will present proposals to parliament regarding the financing of defense expenditure. This point was included in the Supreme Council resolution on implementation of the law on the state budget for 1994.

Despite many protests by people's deputies against the tax which, in accordance with Article 23 of the state budget, will be imposed on corporate and physical entities for each page of written appeals to bodies of executive and legislative authority, the article was not withdrawn from the adopted document. In accordance with a proposal by Andriy Pecherov, chairman of the commission for issues of planning, budget, finances, and prices, Article 23 will be put into practice by a separate legislative act.

The calls by some deputies not to grant subventions to the Republic of Crimea until the legislation of that autonomous region is brought into line with the laws of Ukraine were not supported. Following the adoption of the Supreme Council resolution on implementation of the law on the state budget for 1994, which envisions it being reconfirmed every quarter, the question of submitting to a Ukraine-wide referendum the fundamental constitutional provisions on the organization of state authority and [local] self-government in Ukraine was presented for discussion.

The latest version of the document was subjected to harsh criticism. After an hour's discussion not a single decision was made. The Supreme Council will continue its work 2 February.

Radetskyy Decreases Number of Generals' Posts

LD0102191494 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1401 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] Kiev—By order of Ukrainian Minister of Defense Vitaliy Radetskyy, generals' posts that were established in the Cabinet of Ministers and large enterprises of the military industrial complex in August 1991 have been reduced from 40 to 29. During a speech summing up the results of courses of action taken for Ukraine's territorial defense, Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk approved the step taken by Vitaliy Radetskyy. Radetskyy also gave an order to remove all reserve officers from the military register who have not sworn allegiance to Ukraine.

Defense Ministry Updates Arms Reductions

LD0102161094 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in English 0100 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] According to the Defense Ministry's press service, 603 tanks, 630 armored cars, and 175 combat aircraft were scrapped in Ukraine by 17 November, 1993, in keeping with Ukraine's commitments under the treaty on conventional forces reductions in Europe. During 1993 over 50 international inspection teams visited Ukraine. They visited tank manufacturing and repair factories in Lvov, Nikolayev, Kiev, and Zhitomir, which are expected to shortly scrap a total of 100 tanks and 60 armored cars. The newest stage in Ukraine's conventional weaponry reductions provides for scrapping over 600 tanks and more than 300 armored cars.

Defense Minister on Concept of Building Army

WS0102151594 Lvov ARMIYA UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 26 Jan 94 pp 1, 2

[Article by Ukrainian Defense Minister Vitaliy Radetskyy: "Professionalism, Discipline, and Order"]

[Excerpts] The training and upbringing of a corps of national commanders is one of the primary elements in building the Ukrainian Armed Forces.

Analyzing the two-year experience of this process, we must point out that many notions had to be reviewed, transformed, and created anew in the course of carrying out this task.

The structure of that part of the Soviet Army which was inherited by Ukraine from the USSR did not correspond

with Ukraine's new tasks, its domestic and foreign political situation. Thus, this structure had to be reformed.

The groups of forces acquired by Ukraine were not integral military entities. The system of their command, control, and communications was disrupted; the operational-strategic structure of troops demanded radical changes and orientation solely toward domestic resources.

Learning other countries' experiences and analyzing suggestions and propositions, we came to the conclusion that the new Ukraine needed a new Army that would neither be the successor of the Soviet Army nor follow the pattern of any Western army. This new army had to take into account national and historic peculiarities and be based on domestic infrastructure. Besides, the new Ukrainian Armed Forces demanded the creation of a national officers' corps.

In light of this, we have to build anew the Ukrainian Armed Forces, at the same time resolving several intertwined issues: reforming existing groups and units and creating new ones; dismissing a large number of servicemen and replacing them with Ukrainian nationals serving in other CIS states; eliminating acute social problems and resolving issues of spiritual and national rebirth, and the like.

The cornerstone of these tasks is the formation of a system of training and upbringing national officers. The critical analysis of the elapsed two-year period has demonstrated that certain things could have been done differently and better. One of the reasons that we have not accomplished more were drawbacks in personnel policy and the failure or impossibility to appoint professional officers to the main sectors of our activities.

Any army that uses mixed methods of staffing, faces the primary issue of a professional approach to the military trade. This issue determines an army's morale and psychological atmosphere and thus, success in combat.

In our opinion, three factors are crucial for military professionals: competence, responsibility, and loyalty to the motherland.

These are the features that distinguish a professional from a dilettante caring only how to get more and give less.

The complicated economic and sociopolitical situation in Ukraine undoubtedly influences the situation in the Army which makes us seek unconventional approaches to the training and upbringing of officers. Besides, we must take into account that any restrictions in the social, legal, or spiritual spheres of officers' lives hamper the processes of professionalizing the Army.

An officer who is constantly being distracted from his duties by his housing problems, his wife's employment, his children's protection from hooligans, and the like, can hardly be expected to be very efficient in his duties. The more so that both he and his family see that shady deals guarantee better lives for many people around them. [passage omitted]

We believe that an officer can achieve a high degree of professionalism only by being assisted by a properly organized uninterrupted system of professional training. This is even more necessary given the fact that every five to 15 years, knowledge becomes obsolete in different branches of science.

Such a flexible multifold system of continuous improvement of cadets' and officers' skills should be introduced in the Ukrainian Armed Forces. We have drafted a concept of continuous training which includes the following postulates:

First: The creation of an organized intertwined system of continuous training of officers, not only by military institutes and academies but also at different courses, officers classes in military units, self-education, as well as closer integration of military and civilian education.

Second: More fundamental schooling within the framework of higher education, especially in initial years. In military educational institutions during the first three to four years, emphasis should be placed on learning basic subjects, as well as elements of military and general educational programs that entitle students to receive civilian diplomas.

Besides, we believe that the new conditions demand a change in the essence of education. Military education used to be oriented toward training personnel for commanding troops in combat. The new type of schooling, not diminishing the role of this kind of training, should provide knowledge necessary for building the new Ukrainian Army and ensuring its readiness to perform peaceful tasks (including participation in peacekeeping forces). [passage omitted]

Assessing the situation that developed in the professional training of officers, we cannot disregard the issue of the Ukrainian language becoming the main working language of every professional officer, the language which he can freely speak, write, read, and use to give commands to his subordinates.

This is a natural precondition which is not in any way insulting to the Russian language, which will remain the official language of the CIS. However, this precondition is hard to implement in the Ukrainian Armed Forces now. In our opinion, we need an all-out state program to teach Ukrainian, involving appropriate educational institutions.

For the Armed Forces, this is a very urgent problem, because all the official documents are published in Ukrainian, while a comparatively small number of officers can freely speak Ukrainian, and there is a shortage of special military literature in this language.

In my opinion, the problem can be resolved by better financing of the process of training and by convincing officers that learning Ukrainian is crucial. Officers should be led to understand that Ukraine's glorious history, its customs and traditions, important for both individual development and for teaching one's subordinates, can only be done in the native language. [passage omitted]

I think that we should once again point out the depolitization of the Army. Ukraine's military doctrine and the Law of Ukraine on Social and Legal Protection of Servicemen and Members of Their Families stipulate that "complete depolitization" of the Army is one of the primary principles of building the Ukrainian Armed Forces, which amounts to a ban on servicemen's participation and membership in any political parties, organizations, or movements. In a majority of developed countries, political activity is a profession just as diplomatic, legal, or military. Why should Ukrainian servicemen be preoccupied with mastering politics rather than their profession? He who wants to devote his life to professional politics should give up his military career.

At the same time, this does not mean that there is negative attitude toward any political party or its leadership within our Armed Forces. We have nothing against cooperation with parties and movements, the more so that some of these express opinions regarding the situation in the state, that are similar to ours. However, it should be precisely stated that the Ukrainian Armed Forces are state structures and they should pursue governmental policy which I would term "centrist," in terms of attitude toward the standpoints of different parties and movements. [passage omitted]

To provide the performance of tasks outlined by President Kravchuk in his speech at the meeting devoted to Ukrainian Armed Forces Day on 4 December 1994, the Ministry of Defense has issued an order pointing out concrete measures for the Army.

The main task in the sphere of training the Ukrainian Armed Forces in 1994, is implementing the military doctrine, and maintaining combat and mobilization readiness of troops (forces) at the stage of their forming, at the level safeguarding the protection of national sovereignty and political independence of Ukraine, its territorial integrity, inviolability of borders, and fighting back armed aggression from any side.

In the situation when the Armed Forces are being built and defense budget reduced, combat and mobilization readiness of troops (forces) must not be lowered.

In operational training, efforts should be concentrated on deep studying and practical implementation of issues of organizing efficient defense of land and sea borders in all directions, as well as antiaircraft and antimissile protection of important state installations.

Combat training should be brought close to real conditions in which troops (forces) have to perform combat tasks, especially fighting back aggression in the initial stages of war.

By the end of 1994, we are planning to adopt the contractual system of manning our officers' corps, paying special attention to officers having the experience of working in operational and operational-strategic units, fighting in the Afghan war, and eliminating the aftermath of the accident at Chernobyl nuclear power station.

In the scientific aspect, we will continue researching the problems of developing the Ukrainian Armed Forces. We will direct our efforts at providing a theoretical basis for the organizational structure of troops, and the combat structure of units in light of the economic potential of the state and quotas stipulated by the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe.

We will continue working on developing the system of military education, supplying the Armed Forces with skilled specialists, ready to perform their duty to protect Ukraine's independence and sovereignty. Special attention should be paid to learning the Ukrainian language and history.

Thus, complicated and responsible tasks posed by life to the Ukrainian Armed Forces, require the strenuous work of every general, officer, warrant officer, and all personnel. Only by joint work and efforts will we be able to overcome the hardships of the transitional period of building our state and the Army.

Supreme Council Discusses Budget, Other Issues

LD0102142794 Kiev UNIAR in Ukrainian 1218 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] Kiev, 1 Feb—Plenary sittings of the ninth session of Ukraine's Supreme Council have resumed. It is planned that the concept of the development of Ukraine's fuel and energy complex until the year 2010 and the draft law on energy conservation will be examined this week.

At the morning session, people's deputies examined Ukraine's draft budget for 1994, which had been proposed and worked on by a standing commission. Finance Minister Hrigoriy Pyatachenko spoke about the changes and additions. During discussions on the latest option, deputies introduced a number of proposals directed at balancing more assiduously the revenue and expenditure part of the budget. The Commission for Issues of the Development of the Basic Sectors of the National Economy completed preparations for discussion at the session. Since the draft concept of the national program for the revival of the countryside for 1995-2005 did not get the required number of votes, the commission is proposing that the concept be discussed again.

Members of the Commission for Issues of National Education and Science prepared a draft law on a scientific and scientific and technical assessment, and the draft national scientific and technical programs "Energy resources, agriculture and food complex, materials and substances," submitted by the Cabinet of Ministers. The commission should complete its examination of them in the course of this week and submit them to the Supreme Council presidium.

Individual people's deputies discussed citizens' appeals concerning the ethics of the actions and behavior of some people's deputies both during plenary sessions and in electoral districts.

State Budget Approved

LD0102172294 Kiev UNIAR in Ukrainian 1630 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] Kiev, 1 Feb—The result of the afternoon session of the parliament session was the adoption of the state budget of Ukraine for 1994, with 255 deputies voting for its adoption and 36 against. According to the new budget, income and expenditure are equal, at 335.067343 trillion karbovantsi.

In the opinion of people's deputy Leopold Taburyanskyy, head of the People's Party of Ukraine, the new budget will lead to the further impoverishment of the population. In his opinion, expenditure on defense—16.82 trillion karbovantsi—and on holding the March parliamentary elections—1.15 trillion—is excessive.

President Visits Stock Exchange, Views Planning

WS0202110894 Kiev KIEVSKIYE NOVOSTI in Russian 28 Jan 94 p 2

[Report by Aleksandr Maslov: "Leonid Kravchuk: One Cannot Reject Planning"]

[Excerpts] "One Cannot Reject Planning." The president made this statement during his visit to the Ukrainian Stock Exchange in response to a question from KIEVSKIYE NOVOSTI's economic reporter.

The president's interest in stock exchange structures is understandable: One may discern a prototype of our economy's key unifying element in their development. Although with great difficulty, the economy is reforming itself on a competitive basis. Another reason for the visit was the fact that having passed through the "evolutionary" process of emergence over a record short period of time, the Ukrainian Stock Exchange today fully meets international standards in organizing bids. This has become possible due to the introduction of electronic circulation of securities. Assistance came from French specialists and the government, which allocated funds for software purchases. The distinguishing feature of the electronic system is that it allows the very expensive "paper" chain to be abandoned. [passage omitted]

Valentin Oskolskiy, chairman of the Ukrainian Stock Exchange's management, reported that the first biddings were held in March of 1992, while the electronic system was installed in late 1993. The latter fact was defined as extremely significant for the development of a florid market of securities since it creates conditions for the regulation of difficult relations among sellers, dealers, and investors. Currently, only stocks of the shipping company "Ukrrechflot" and the "Ukraine" stock bank are sold through this system. The system is expected to reach its full potential with the beginning of the mass privatization of state property.

Having acquainted himself with the system, the staff, and the results of the bids conducted on this "occasion" (the stock exchange sold securities worth 25 million karbovantsy), the president answered journalists' questions. Since the stock exchange system is a contrast to the so-called system of centralized planning, we asked L. Kravchuk to explain his general attitude toward the beginnings of planning in the economy.

"You see that one cannot reject planning," said the president. "It is applied everywhere. Even a small family plans its future, income, and expenditures—what it has and what it can buy. For example, Japan achieved its market through the fulfillment of plans. One should not reject planning as such. The problem is that speaking about planning as a principle, we have before us the image of the great state plan with its extremely centralized system, administrative methods of regulation, and pressures on the producer. A plan scares us. However, we have actually submitted our plans of social and economic development rather than the budget alone to the Supreme Soviet. They must be coordinated and interrelated. I believe that one must have a plan for the development of any economic entity, concern, corporation, or syndicate. This is the case throughout the world." [passage omitted]

Government Views Border Laws, Free Economic Zones

WS0102115194 Kiev Ukrayinske Radio First Program Network in Ukrainian 0600 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] The Ukrainian Council of Ministers held a session on 31 January chaired by President Leonid Kravchuk. The session was attended by managers of departments and organizations, the Crimean Council of Ministers, oblast administrations, and the Kiev and Sevastopol city administrations. Participants in the session discussed the observance of border and customs regulations, and the implementation of presidential and governmental decrees concerning these issues. A resolution was adopted outlining ways to resolve current problems.

The session also approved the employment program for 1994. The aim of the program is to implement concrete measures granting productive employment and efficient social care for those categories of citizens unable to compete as equals on the job market.

A concept for forming special free economic zones was approved in general. The concept will provide a methodological basis for adopting resolutions and drafting necessary documents stipulating concrete free economic zones.

Participants discussed a draft national program for eliminating the aftermath of the Chernobyl accident and providing social care for citizens in 1994-1995, as well as up to the year 2000. The document was forwarded on for completion.

The government approved and decided to submit for ratification a draft presidential decree on forming a single system of privatization organs in Ukraine.

The participants considered the issue of adopting a new payment system for municipal services and rent, as well as special purpose compensation for certain strata of society. Propositions suggested by the State Committee for Housing and Municipal Services stipulate that the share of

people's payments toward the general cost of municipal services will gradually be increased by reducing subsidies for municipal enterprises.

Defense Minister Rules Out Conflict in Crimea

AU0102114794 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 29 Jan 94 p 16

[Report by the Press Service of Ukraine's Ministry of Defense: "Misinformation"]

[Text] The newspaper KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA of 25 January 1994 carried the information "A 'Battle' in the Crimea—Everything Is Covered by Smoke." This brief report is noteworthy for quite a number of inaccuracies it contains (probably on purpose). For example, the newspaper announced that, between 24 and 28 January, "large-scale command staff maneuvers of the Armed Forces units and formations" would be conducted in some southern Ukrainian regions and in the Crimea. In the newspaper's opinion, they are due to Kiev's dissatisfaction with the results of the first round of elections in the Crimea. The Press Service of Ukraine's Ministry of Defense repeatedly stated that, in accordance with the plan for combat training of Ukraine's Armed Forces that had been approved as far back as in November 1994, a strategic exercise involving the resolution of tasks of the country's territorial defense would be conducted between 24 and 27 January 1994. No units or formations of the Armed Forces participated in the exercise. That is why the linking of the question of strategic maneuvers to the results of the first round of the presidential elections in the Crimea is a manipulation of facts and a deliberate stirring up of political passions around the situation in the Crimea. The information [in KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA] also quoted a statement by Ukraine's minister of defense, Army General V. Radetskyy, that was allegedly made by him in his interview for KIYEVSKIYE VEDOMOSTI: "I wouldn't like to liberate the Crimea the way the Americans liberated Kuwait." In reality, V. Radetskyy did not grant any interviews to KIYEVSKIYE VEDOMOSTI. During a meeting with editors of the leading Ukrainian mass media, Vitaliy Radetskyy ruled out a possibility of an armed conflict in the Crimea.

Self-Defense Detachments 'on Full Combat Alert'

LD0102130394 Kiev UNIAR in Ukrainian 1218 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] Kiev, 1 Feb— As Vasyl Bilous, press adviser of the Ukrainian National Assembly has stated, Yuriy Meshkov's victory in the Crimean presidential elections will lead to a civil war. In his words, detachments of the UNA-UNSO [Ukrainian National Assembly-Ukrainian National Self-Defense] are at present on full combat alert: "We are prepared to react to all events in the Crimea."

Lukyanenko: Meshkov Goals 'Not Obtainable Without Ukraine'

WS0102114994 Kiev Ukrayinske Radio First Program Network in Ukrainian 0600 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] The process of Crimea's secession from Ukraine, initiated by the communist nomenklatura, has gone so far that the Crimea has in fact become an independent state. This opinion was voiced by Levko Lukyanenko, cochairman of the Ukraine Democratic Association, in an interview with the NOVYNY television and radio agency. Lukyanenko believes that Yuriy Meshkov's presidency is illegal, as were illegal Crimean Supreme Soviet resolutions to introduce the post and elect a Crimean president. Speaking of Yuriy Meshkov's possible activities in the new post, Lukyanenko pointed out that the Crimean Republican Party leader used to be a propagandist, while now he has became president and will have to take into account realities. According to Lukyanenko, Yuriy Meshkov's goal to improve the lives of Crimean residents is not obtainable without Ukraine.

Crimea's Meshkov To Meet Kravchuk in Kiev 4 Feb

LD0102214794 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2127 GMT 1 Feb 94

[by ITAR-TASS correspondent Pavel Kuznetsov]

[Text] Moscow February 2 TASS—Newly-elected Crimean President Yuriy Meshkov and Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk had a telephone conversation on Tuesday to agree on a meeting to discuss a broad range of Kiev-Simferopol relations, Meshkov told ITAR-TASS over telephone on Tuesday.

The telephone conversation was described by Meshkov as "well-wishing and calm". The meeting will be held on February 4 in the Ukrainian capital where Meshkov will go right after his inauguration in Simferopol.

In the words of Meshkov, "there are no reasons for any complications. The image of pro-Russian politician Ukrainian nationalists are trying to make has nothing to do with me. But this has provoked certain watchfulness of the Kiev authorities".

Meshkov noted the need for a stable Russian-Ukrainian union, referring to historical experience of both states.

"The time of Mazepa—striving for isolation—has gone, the epoch of Bogdan Khmelnitsky returns," the Crimean president told ITAR-TASS.

Crimea Parliament Speaker Resigns After Defeat

MK0102110094 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 1 Feb 94 p 1

[Aleksandr Pilat report in the "Crimea" column, under general headline: "Yuriy Meshkov Is President of Crimean Republic. What Kiev Feared and Moscow Was Apparently Not Ready to Face Has Happened"]

[Excerpts] Judging by the results of the first round of presidential elections on the peninsula, it seemed that the

greater part of the population thought the Crimean Republic's reunification with Russia will be a panacea for all the woes that have befallen them. This was precisely what Yuriy Meshkov, presidential candidate from the Crimean Republican Movement, promised them (subsequently with some qualifications).

On the day of the second round of elections, 30 January, Mustafa Dzhemilev, chairman of the Crimean Tatar People's Assembly, gave a news conference. He was sharply negative of Yuriy Meshkov's possible election as Crimea's president. He is convinced that wherever conflicts have arisen, the situation strongly resembled what is happening in Crimea today. Mustafa Dzhemilev sees as the main danger the Black Sea Fleet, a greater part of whose servicemen voted for Zhirinovskiy in the elections to the Russian Federal Assembly. According to Dzhemilev, Crimean Tatars do not understand Meshkov's wish for Crimea to have close relations with Russia: "Why not with Turkey, where the living standards are several orders of magnitude higher, or with America?" [passage omitted]

On 31 January Nikolay Bagrov organized a news conference for Crimean, Ukrainian, and numerous foreign journalists. He stated that in all likelihood, he would leave politics.

According to Bagrov, "the president will be placed in a difficult position because the election program will have to be implemented. But it is infeasible."

Nikolay Bagrov said that he is not going to run for either the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet or the Crimean Supreme Soviet. He ended the news conference by saying: "I am grateful to everybody for their cooperation. Thank you."

On 31 January the Crimean Supreme Soviet Presidium held a session in which Nikolay Bagrov made a statement which says in part: "I consider it impossible to remain chairman of the Crimean Supreme Soviet after the results of the second round of presidential elections in the Crimean Republic. I ask the extraordinary session to accept my resignation." [passage omitted]

Belarus

Hryb Promises Supreme Soviet 'Fruitful' Work

WS0102153194 Minsk Radio Minsk Network in Belarusian 1300 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Report by Mikhail Rutkowski]

[Text] At the beginning of the session, Belarusian Supreme Soviet Chairman Myechyslaw Hryb thanked the deputies once more for their confidence and for electing him the Supreme Soviet chairman. He spoke about the political course he is going to pursue as head of state.

[Begin Hryb recording] I will do everything possible to make the work of the Supreme Soviet constructive and fruitful. I am addressing our opposition: We could eliminate this critical situation only through joint efforts. I am not for the establishment of single viewpoints on various issues, however, I am against idle criticism. I am appealing to you to show and prove through your actions and not by words alone that we are concerned with the destiny of our people. Only consolidation—but not confrontation of all forces—can help us. I want to stress that Belarusian mass media can play an important role in the consolidation of our people and can lessen the tension in our society. I wish our mass media to be critical and honest. I was elected Supreme Soviet chairman in a very complicated and difficult period. I know that our disabled people, pensioners, families with many children, students, servicemen, workers of the agricultural and industrial sectors, and scientists are living through hard times. However, I will not begin my work on this post with empty promises. I can promise one thing: I will always remember that laborious Belarusian people, who deserve a better life, support me. I will do everything possible to improve living standards of every Belarusian citizen and family. I hope for your understanding, your civil wisdom; I appeal to you for your support and comprehension. The destiny of Belarus, our Motherland, is currently in our hands.

As for the relations of Belarus with foreign states, they will be prolonged and based on mutual respect, good neighbor relations, and mutually beneficial cooperation. [end recording]

Later, lawmakers listened to the speeches of their colleagues on miscellaneous issues. After the speeches, People's Deputy Vasil Ivanavich Shaladonow, general prosecutor of the Republic of Belarus, took the rostrum and proposed including the issues on electing a new chairman of the Constitutional Committee and on criminal responsibility of two judges—Eduard Klimyankow and Mikhail Klopaw—into the agenda of the 13th Supreme Soviet session. The deputies agreed and these issues were included in the session's agenda.

Next, Supreme Soviet Chairman Myechyslaw Hryb read the issues to be discussed by the deputies at this session. People's Deputy Alyaksandr Lukashenka criticized the deputies for not paying attention to what happened in this assembly hall the week before. It is necessary to conduct early Supreme Soviet elections and not to hide our heads in the sand, said Alyaksandr Lukashenka. Some deputies proposed discussing economic issues because the industrial and agricultural sectors are in a critical state.

Hryb Promises No Change in Foreign Policy

LD0102190894 Minsk Radio Minsk Network in Belarusian 1815 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] Myechyslaw Hryb, chairman of the Belarusian Supreme Soviet, gave a news conference today at which he made a statement expressing sincere gratitude to the citizens of the republic and to the leaders of the CIS countries who congratulated him on his election to the post of chairman of the Supreme Soviet. The statement also notes that the change of leader of the Belarusian parliament does not mean a change in political and economic course. No, good-neighborly relations with all states, all peoples, recognition of the borders within which we exist—those are the main foreign policy priorities set out by the Supreme Soviet of the Republic of Belarus.

In the Supreme Soviet chairman's statement, he says he will support the course of nonnuclear status and neutrality proclaimed by parliament. Myecheslaw Hryb expressed hope that the Belarusian people will demonstrate a sense of organization and discipline for the speediest way out of the difficult situation in which Belarus finds itself. In the near future, he said, the Supreme Soviet Presidium, together with the government, intends to (?present) urgent measures to provide for the spring sowing and to take the necessary measures to activate the activity of our industrial enterprises. The Supreme Soviet chairman replied to numerous questions from the journalists.

Hryb Replaces Shushkevich as Constitutional Chairman

LD0102173694 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1656 GMT 1 Feb 94

[By BELINFORM-TASS]

[Text] Minsk February 1 TASS—Myechyslaw Hryb, who was elected the leader of the country after Stanislav Shushkevich got a no-confidence vote from the Belarussian parliament, replaced the former speaker also in his position of chairman of the Constitutional Commission.

The republican parliament voted for that on Tuesday [1 February].

Democratic Forces To Resist 'Kebich Dictatorship'

WS0102192494 Minsk BELAPAN in Belarusian 1630 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] In Minsk, a regular meeting of the Conference of Patriotic-Democratic Forces has been held with the participation of the United Democratic Party of Belarus, the Belarusian Social Democratic Assembly, the Belarusian Peasant Party, the Christian Democratic Union, the National Democratic Party, the Party of People's Accord, the Society of Belarusian Language, and the Belarusian Association of Servicemen.

The participants unanimously described the dismissals of Stanislav Shushkevich and the "power" ministers as a nomenklatura's coup and a path to Kebich dictatorship, which will eventually lead to a collapse of the state and economy.

The members of the conference expressed their intention to unify activities of all patriotic-democratic forces to resist the dictatorship. Unification is to be discussed at the next meeting.

Internal Troops Deny Acting Outside Law

LD0102201294 Minsk Radio Minsk Network in Belarusian 1815 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] The Military Council of Internal Troops issued a statement to the Belarusian public which says that some of the mass media and speeches by representatives of political parties and by some people's deputies are presenting the activity of the internal troops as antipeople, antidemocratic, and antistate. Attempts are being made to show them as an instrument of political pressure and blackmail.

This was shown especially clearly on 9 November 1993, on the day of the opening of the latest session of parliament, when internal troops were deployed to maintain civil order. This was caused, the statement says, by the fact that in Minsk the day before, leaflets appeared with a call to get rid of the government and for armed protest. One of the leaflets was read at the session. In a number of cities there were gatherings of people who were antigovernment for [words indistinct] and exerting pressure on the authorities. There was information warning about possible terrorist acts from the Embassy of the Russian Federation. The Belarusian KGB was unaware of a breakthrough by aggressively inclined representatives of the (?BZV) [expansion unknown] toward the government building.

In this way, the statement stresses, the Ministry of Internal Affairs had sufficient grounds for considering that on the day of the opening of the session there could arise conditions which would threaten civil peace and the security of citizens. Therefore, a plan for ensuring law and order was put into practice.

The actions of the Ministry of Internal Affairs on 20 January this year were described in the same [word indistinct]. In the report on the deputies' investigation published in NARODNAYA GAZETA it was alleged that subunits of the internal troops were sent to intimidate deputies who did not support the government line, that the troops were concentrated in numbers intended to carry out military action.

The Military Council of Internal Troops categorically denies this allegation. We solemnly declare that the internal troops of the Republic of Belarus will never be an instrument for the ambitions of politicians who struggle for power by illegal means, says the statement. We appeal to political parties and movements, to the mass media, and to the public asking and insisting to stop dragging the internal troops into the political arena. The troops stand on guard of the law. They acted and will act within the law.

Talks on Monetary Merger With Russia To Continue

LD0102164194 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1446 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] A negotiating team of experts from the Russian Finance Ministry, Economy Ministry, Customs Committee, State CIS Cooperation Committee, and the Central Bank of Russia will arrive in Minsk on February 2 to draft with their Belarusian colleagues a package of documents on merger of the monetary systems of the two countries.

A Belarusian cabinet member who wanted to remain anonymous told Interfax that the negotiating teams will discuss, as a matter of priority, mechanisms enabling the most important economic institutions of Russia and Belarus to function jointly and engage in business contacts with third countries.

In his words, the two sides are about to agree on the need to have a transition period during which common approaches will be worked out in customs, budgets, pricing, crediting and social policies. He did not rule out that the replacement of Belarusian currency by Russian rubles will take six months or a year.

The minister thinks that the gap between Russian and Belarusian positions has been narrowed on the two most controversial issues, the prices of fuel and raw commodities for Belarusian consumers and the exchange rate between the Belarusian and Russian rubles. Following comparison of prices of the 97 most important goods, one Russian ruble seems to be worth two Belarusian rubles while discussion will have to continue on the prices of oil and gas. Belarus wants to make these prices equal to those in Russia, while the Russian negotiators insist on freezing the existing prices for Belarusian factories and gradually making them equal to those at which oil and gas are sold to Russian factories.

The Belarusian minister said that a compromise was possible.

When the documents are agreed upon, Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin will go to Minsk for a signing ceremony.

Council of Ministers Affirm Continuity of Reforms

WS0202101794 Minsk Radio Minsk Network in Belarusian 0800 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] The Belarusian Government will continue its course of economic reform and will do everything to make the transition to a market economy free of social unrest and decreasing standards of living. This is the gist of a Council of Ministers' statement distributed by the Belarusian Embassy in Russia. Belarusian foreign policy will preserve its democratic ideals directed at the development of cooperation with all states, and the strengthening of economic union with the Russian Federation and the CIS.

Moldova

'Dniester Republic' To Block Elections

LD0102153094 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1420 GMT 1 Feb 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Demidetskiy]

[Text] Chisinau February 1 TASS—The Dniester authorities will thwart the elections to the Moldovan parliament on its territory, Valeri Litskay, state secretary of the unrecognised Dniester republic, told ITAR-TASS on Tuesday.

If the Moldovan leadership sends mobile polling stations and foreign observers to the Dniester region, they will be barred by armed patrols which are stationed on bridges across the Dniester in compliance with the state of emergency proclaimed in the Dniester region.

Incidentally, the Dniester parliament adopted a decision on Tuesday to hold elections to local bodies of self-rule next April.

Within the next two months, a special commission is to submit a new concept of local self-rule to the Dniester parliament in connection with the new political and economic situation in the region. Several local lawmakers suggested that a referendum on the Dniester republic's future should be held along with the elections.

Moldovan Deputy Parliament Speaker Viktor Pushkash described these actions of Tiraspol authorities as "anticonstitutional and contravening international laws". According to the deputy speaker, many voters on the Dniester west bank wish to participate in the elections, which is corroborated by letters coming to Chisinau and telephone calls.

"However, armed patrols stationed by the Tiraspol leaders on all roads turned the territory into a reservation of a kind," Pushkash stressed. "I'm sure," he continued, "that the Dniester leaders will raise difficulties for those who will want to vote and try to prevent people from going to the right bank.

"Despite an opposition from the Tiraspol leaders, we meet and will meet our voters in left-bank districts and will try to provide them will a chance to vote on the election day."

Snegur: Links With Former USSR States 'Vital'

LD3101212094 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1854 GMT 31 Jan 94

[Text] Moldovan President Mircea Snegur said it was in Moldova's vital interests to maintain its links with other former Soviet republics.

This would provide a basis for surmounting the present economic crisis in Moldova, Snegur told U.S. Congress expert Sergio Verona in Chisinau on Monday.

But Moldova would join no political or military CIS treaties, for it wanted to remain "genuinely neutral," he said.

Going over to the problem of Transdniestria, Snegur said the leaders of the mainly Russian-speaking enclave refused to start a dialogue with the Moldovan government, since the latter rejected their idea of confederative structure for Moldova.

Commenting on Moldova's relations with Romania, Snegur said those advocating unification between Moldova and Romania "thereby put up obstacles to the economic and cultural mutual integration of the two states."

Sangeli Urges Restoring Economic Ties

LD0102213794 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1947 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] Moldova's Premier Andrey Sangeli said that Moldova must restore all economic relations with the former USSR republics and introduce itself to these states' markets in fresh way. He said in an interview with Interfax that Moldova would "be paying for its recent errors for a long time."

"Many states' producers are happy to have a stable market for realization of their production. We voluntarily turned away from the Eastern market," the premier remarked.

Sangeli emphasized that the current government was energetically working to restore the relations with the eastern neighbors and to enhance the relations with the Western states.

"It is very important that the law on investment start working. We have it but we need political stability to make it work. This is essential," Sangeli emphasized.

In his opinion, the coming parliamentary elections on February 27 will allow to lay a foundation for stability in the republic. "These are specific decisive elections. The problem is: now or never," Sangeli said.

He believes that a political force must come to power which will form the government and resolve other issues: the constitution's adoption, the issue on Transdniestria and the country's territorial integrity.

Sangeli is now on holidays due to the fact that he is running for the parliamentary elections from the Agrarian Democratic Party's ticket.

Kazakhstan

Foreign Minister Denies Revising Nuclear-Free Status

LD3101155394 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1530 GMT 31 Jan 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Vladimir Akimov and Amangeldiy Akhmetalimov]

[Text] Almaty January 31 TASS— The foreign minister of Kazakhstan denied allegations that his country is revising its nuclear-free status and said republican authorities will probe all circumstances which led to a publication in the Iranian "JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI" newspaper which said that the Central Asian republic will not give up its nuclear arsenal.

"This is a newspaper canard which does not deserve any attention", Tuleutay Suleymenov said on Monday.

The newspaper quoted Kazakh Ambassador in Tehran Myrzatay Dzholdasbekov as saying that Kazakhstan does not intend to eliminate or relocate its nuclear weapons to any other place until non-use of such weapons is guaranteed at the world level and the planet gets rid of them.

It was stressed that this was the official position which was to be conveyed to the U.S. Administration during a visit of President Nursultan Nazarbayev to the United States which is to take place in two weeks.

Kazakhstan "joined the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty last December and ratified it, as well as the START I treaty", Suleymenov said adding that instruments of ratification will be exchanged with the United States during the visit of Nazarbayev in mid-February.

"Moreover, Kazakhstan together with Belarus made a considerable contribution to the work which was completed in Moscow by Presidents of Russia, the United States and ukraine", Suleymenov said referring to the trilateral agreement according to which Ukraine gives up its nuclear weapons.

"Our republic never strived to be a nuclear state. It has experienced its deadly danger. Five hundred nuclear tests have been conducted at the Semipalatinsk range which is closed now. Hundreds of thousands of Kazakhs are still suffering from their aftermath and we all view disposing of the weapons as a benefit", the minister said. He added that Kazakh official authorities are trying to probe all the circumstances which resulted in the publication in "JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI" which "rudely distorted the republican position on nuclear weapons". Most evidently, the newspaper is guilty of wishful thinking, but it is not ruled out that the words of the ambassador were distorted for some reason.

Roads Minister, Iranian Envoy Discuss Ties

LD0102113394 Tehran IRNA in English 1053 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] Moscow, Feb. 1, IRNA—Iran and Kazakhstan Monday [31 January] discussed implementation of the agreements so far reached between the two countries in the field of transportation.

The Iranian ambassador to Almaty, Rasul Eslami, met with Kazakh Minister of Roads and Transportation Nematjan Issin Kirim on the eve of the Kazakh official's trip to Iran.

Referring to Iran's important strategic location, Issin Kirin expressed hope that mutual cooperation in the area of transportation would be further promoted. The Kazakh minister underlined the importance his country attached to cooperation between the two countries in road and railway transportation. Kazakhstan could also be connected to Turkey, Pakistan, and the Persian Gulf Arab states through Iran, he added.

Issin Kirim is due to visit Iran this week at the invitation of his Iranian counterpart Akbar Torkan.

Nazarbayev on Baykonur, Military Ties With Russia

LD0102175894 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1641 GMT 1 Feb 94

[From the "Presidential Bulletin" feature]

[Text] President Nursultan Nazarbayev told Interfax that a military cooperation treaty with Russia would be signed shortly. He had sent a draft of the treaty to Russia's Boris Yeltsin "back in March," following which the two governments were told to finalize the document.

The document "tackles the issues of military cooperation and use of testing grounds in Kazakhstan and the Baykonur space launch pad." Nazarbayev explained that the treaty also provided for training of Kazakh officers in Russia, cooperation in manufacture of weapons and coordination in drafting a common military doctrine.

"If we are to create a common defense space, which is what Kazakhstan wants, we have to cooperate very closely in border protection, personnel training, military doctrine and other areas, the president said.

In his view, the Russian army would have to spend huge sums of money to build new testing grounds if it ceased to use those in Kazakhstan. Over 32.5 Mn hectares were in the past used for testing grounds while making such large areas available for military needs is out of the question now. Kazakhstan is prepared to lease the installations there on mutually beneficial conditions.

The Kazakh president dismissed the reports that Almaty had demanded that Russia pay $7 Bn yearly rent for the Baykonur launch pad. He emphasized, however, that Russia was not the sole country that kept Baykonur in working order. Kazakhstan supplied 1 Bn kW hrs of energy yearly to Baykonur which also used underground water, which "is in short supply in the Syr-Daria River." New buildings in Baykonur were constructed of Kazakh materials. "For this reason, the expenses of renting Baykonur for joint operation by Ukrainian, Russian and Kazakh rocketry are being computed," Nazarbayev said.

(Interfax Note: Russian and Kazakh negotiating teams in the talks which started in Moscow Monday are discussing the text of a new agreement on the status and operation of the launch pad and the town of Leninsk. According to a

spokesman for the Russian Space Agency, the treaty on the lease of Baykonur and the issue of which legislation would be in existence in the areas rented from Kazakhstan are issues that will be discussed shortly.)

The president thinks that discussion of the status of Russian troops in Kazakhstan would be premature at this stage. He said that he had an understanding with Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin, with whom he had met in Davos, Switzerland, during the World Economic Forum, on having experts to meet in early February in order to hammer out an agreement on the issues involved.

Nazarbayev rejected accusations of conservative thinking leveled at Chernomyrdin and his new government by the Russian press and recalled that Chernomyrdin's activities during the Moscow events of October 3 and 4, when he was unambiguously on President Yeltsin's side, had been welcomed by the mass media. Now it is wrong to describe him as a hardliner even before the government has announced its program, the Kazakh president said.

Currently any Russian government "will have to stay on the course of reform," Nazarbayev thinks.

Newspaper Views Baykonur Cosmodrome's Plight

PM0202111794 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 1 Feb 94 First Edition p 3

[Article by Baykonur Cosmodrome Chief Aleksandr Shumilin under the "Space" rubric: "Rockets Still Blast Off. What Lies in Store for Baykonur?"]

[Text] The mass media of many countries readily publish materials on the fate of Baykonur Cosmodrome. The business, scientific, and political world is concerned about the problem of preserving this unique creation of human hands.

"Farewell, Baykonur," "The Destruction of Baykonur Is the Tragedy of the Century," "Nightmare at the Cosmodrome"—this is a far from complete list of the headlines in Russian and foreign newspapers and magazines.

But what is the true state of affairs? In an attempt to answer this question, representatives of the U.S. firm of Anser—Messrs. R. Dalby and B. Alexander—visited Baykonur last year. After spending less than two days at the cosmodrome and viewing the launch and technical complexes of the Soyuz, Proton, and Energiya carrier rockets (30 minutes at each complex), the guests happily set off home. Not even a high-class specialist is able to assess the technical condition of very complex systems in such a short space of time, apart from forming an impression of their outward appearance. But the U.S. experts drew hasty conclusions without a moment's hesitation: "The breakup of the USSR has not affected Baykonur's potential." In their haste the gentlemen from across the ocean did not attach any significance to the following "trifle": Of the 40 major organizations involved in implementing space programs in past years, just over 10 are left today. The test cosmodrome now functions only thanks to military specialists carrying out their official duty in bleak climatic conditions and in the humiliating position of an indeterminate legal status. The potential of the military contingent, which is fatigued as a result of everyday troubles, is not infinite, however. Meanwhile, the U.S. experts maintain that the tragic situation in which the servicemen find themselves has been "greatly and deliberately" exaggerated. This is allegedly being done for the sole purpose of "squeezing" more money out of the government.

But why did the Americans need to "put a gloss" on the situation? It is no secret that a worldwide struggle is being waged for a place in the "space Klondyke." And anything goes in this struggle, as the saying goes. Baykonur really is in need of serious assistance to maintain impeccable technical readiness. One or two glitches in carrying out international programs, and it would mean the end of the world reputation of the unique complex. Is this not the version that the gentlemen from Anser had in mind?

P. Berlin, another U.S. expert, is still more subtly cunning when he concludes: "The risk in contracts for commercial launches appears insignificant." In short, the cosmodrome is in full order, with the exception that ther is "no comfort" at Leninsk. Not that this will hamper commercial launches in any way. And yet Mr. Berlin must know that it is only possible to win the competition for a commercial satellite launch by giving the client solid service, including a high-class hotel, "car keys," excellent roads to the launch site, and so on. Leninsk is not ready for this today. Additional capital investments are also needed, otherwise Russia will quit the space market empty-handed.

More than 20 delegations from the United States, France, Germany, India, Turkey, and other countries have visited the cosmodrome recently. Guests arrive at the invitation and under the patronage of Russian firms such as the "Energiya" Science and Production Association, the M.V. Khrunichev Association, the Space Research Institute, the Russian Space Agency, and the National Aerospace Agency of the Republic of Kazakhstan. The delegations are different, but they are all united by one thing: Not once has anyone deemed it necessary to notify the cosmodrome's command of their visit.

On the other hand, both the Kazakhstani press and Russian newspapers keep "chewing" over an old story with a persistence worthy of better application—the cosmodrome's servicemen want to create a military space base on the republic's territory. The local newspaper altogether accuses us of wishing to "militarize space."

The most popular "refrain" in numerous local press statements is the assertion that the Republic of Kazakhstan is the cosmodrome's master. Askar Nurmanov, a specialist of the Kazakhstani Aerospace Agency, declared: "We unexpectedly found ourselves the possessors of such a structure and were not ready to exploit it." I will comment that considerable funds, in addition to high-class specialists (whom Kazakhstan does not have today), are needed for the normal "exploitation" of the cosmodrome. According to last year's estimates, 38 billion rubles are needed annually.

Until this year, however, this sum was distributed between Russia and Kazakhstan in the following proportion: Russia paid 94 percent, and Kazakhstan just 6 percent. Since Baykonur is located on Kazakhstani soil, this implied that the rest was covered by leasing the land allocated to the cosmodrome and the landing zone.

As far as this is legitimate, let the economists and financiers—in short, those whose job it is—resolve matters. To date a whole package of documents regulating many questions has already been adopted. There is the creation of an open-type joint-stock company at the cosmodrome. The granting of privileges to all specialists who come to us to work. Finally, a memorandum has been signed which attempts to regulate the interests of all the sides involved in fulfilling space programs.

Unfortunately, as practice has shown, many documents do not entirely remove the tension. But the main point is that efforts are being made to this end.

We are prepared to meet journalists and experts, specialists and dilettantes, to show and tell them everything the way it is. Our only request is one which Mikhail Bulgakov expressed exhaustively on addressing young litterateurs: "Write what you see, and do not write what you do not see!"

Over $1 Billion in Foreign Credits Expected

LD0102203294 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1819 GMT 1 Feb 94

[By KAZTAG correspondent Yelena Miroglova for TASS]

[Text] Almaty February 1 TASS—Kazakhstan is to get a one billion 344,100 thousand USD worth of credits from foreign countries and international banks in 1994, Akejan Kazhegeldin, first deputy prime minister of Kazakhstan told a press conference on Tuesday.

The International Monetary Fund allots 255 mln [million] USD for the National Bank of Kazakhstan to support the national currency. Another 719.3 mln USD are to enable the government to compensate for the deficit of the balance of payments and support the budget.

Credits on goods are expected to total 96.9 mln USD which will be used to pay for products and services imported from the creditor countries.

The technical loan offered by foreign countries will total 72.9 mln USD which will be used to repay the costs of visiting foreign experts and training students.

Japan has provided credits to Kazakhstan for the first time in history: It has alloted 220 mln USD with 20 to 25-year-long period of repayment.

The loans are given on rather favourable terms, the first deputy prime minister pointed out in reply to a question.

He described a system of control to be implemented to supervise the actual use of all types of the loans. The money will mostly be used to fund specific economic and industrial projects. The borrowers will assume responsibility for the loans.

Tajikistan

Supreme Council Decree on Government Structure

LD0102145294 Dushanbe Radio Tajikistan Network in Russian 1000 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] Taking into account the proposal of chairman of the Tajik Council of Ministers submitted to execute the decree of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Tajikistan on the structure of the Council of Ministers, the presidium of the Tajik Supreme Council decreed, as an exception, the following structure of the Tajik Council of Ministers.

Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Tajikistan.
First deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Tajikistan.
Four deputy chairmen of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Tajikistan.
Administrator of Affairs of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Tajikistan.
Twenty two ministries, in particular:
The Ministry of Economy and Forecasting of the Republic of Tajikistan.
The Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Tajikistan.
The Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations [words indistinct] of the Republic of Tajikistan.
The Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Tajikistan.
The Ministry of Industry of the Republic of Tajikistan.
The Ministry of Construction of the Republic of Tajikistan and others.
The State Committees [of the Republic of Tajikistan].
The State Committee of the Republic of Tajikistan on TV and Radio.
The State Committee of the Republic of Tajikistan on Construction and Architecture.
The State Committee of the Republic of Tajikistan on State Property.

The above mentioned decree will be submitted for approval at the regular session of the Tajik Supreme Council.

The full text of the ministries will be published in the press.

Supreme Council Issues Decree on Farmers Congress

LD0202113594 Dushanbe Radio Tajikistan Network in Russian 1000 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] The presidium of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Tajikistan decrees:

It is permitted, as an exception in conditions of a state of emergency, for the Union of Collective Farmers of the Republic of Tajikistan to hold the fifth congress of the collective farmers of the Republic of Tajikistan on 25-26 February in Dushanbe.

(Yoqubjon) Salimov, internal affairs minister of Tajikistan, and (Saidamir) Zuhurov, chairman of the National Security Committee of Tajikistan, are to take measures to ensure the security and safety of the participants in the fifth congress of the collective farmers of Tajikistan.

Premier: No Future for Centralized Management

LD0102183594 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1641 GMT 1 Feb 94

[From the "Presidential Bulletin" feature:]

[Text] [Tajikistan's] Prime Minister Abduljalil Samadov says attempts to try to maintain the command system of economic management are hopeless.

In a published appeal to the people, Samadov said that all official talks were now focused on mutual sales and payments but not on former obligatory sale to the state. He says the existing realities place the need for program correctives and the arrangement of normal market relations in domestic and foreign trade.

Samadov called on Tajik citizens to come up with coherent proposals on how to improve the functioning of economic mechanisms and effectively utilize the country's natural and human resources. He hopes that the system of accounting for as diversity of views will work on a permanent basis rather than being a short-lived time campaign. [sentence as received]

Many say the Prime Minister's call is intended to arrange close cooperation between the government and private sector in the effort to embrace economic reforms.

Armenia

Presidential Press Secretary Resigns

LD0102162494 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1601 GMT 1 Feb 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tigran Liloyan]

[Text] Yerevan February 1 TASS—Press secretary of the Armenian President Aram Abramyan has sent in his resignation. The resignation was accepted by the president on Monday night.

In the words of Abramyan, the reasons for his resignation are not political. He confirmed his loyalty to President Levon Ter-Petrosyan and noted he will return to scientific activities at the Institute of Arts of the Armenian Academy of Sciences.

Parliament Approves Prosecution of Party Candidate

NC0102214794 Yerevan SNARK in English 1533 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] Yerevan, February 1 (SNARK)—Today the Armenian Parliament has almost unanimously given its consent to institute criminal proceedings against Myasnik Hakopyan, the chairman of the Council of Businessmen, Leaseholders and Cooperators. He is prosecuted for misappropriation of state property of great dimensions.

Artavazd Gevorkyan, the general prosecutor of Armenia, states the chairman of the Businessmen's Council misappropriated by means of machinations and forgery more than 34 million rubles. 2000 cartridges were found during his apartment's search.

Myasnik Hakopyan was one of the candidates on the president's post.

The parliament's consent was necessary because Dashnaktsutyun Party had proposed Hakopyan as a candidate to the Supreme Soviet of Armenia. Therefore, Dashnaktsutyun demanded his immediate release and remonstrated at the Office of Public Prosecutor.

Economics Minister on 'Tightening the Belt'

NC0102220194 Yerevan SNARK in English 1211 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] Yerevan, February 1 (SNARK)—Armenia falls into the medium degree of classification with the status of a less developed country. There is nothing wrong with this international status we got not so long ago, for over the last three years the gross national product has abruptly fallen. This information was told to SNARK today by the Armenian Minister for Economics Armen Yegiazaryan. He states that the real gross national product in 1990 was on the level of 4 700 [figure as received] dollars per head. Last year it became 700-800 dollars per head.

In Yegiazaryan's opinion, it would be incorrect to increase the incomes artificially, and at this stage there is no alternative to the policy of "tightening the belt". The minister thinks the three indexations of wages since January 1 speak in favor of this assertion, as in conformity with the expectations there was no essential rise of the prices. "We have a situation in Armenia when the insolvency of the mainstream led to the drastic consumers' market contraction and, therefore, supply decrease", concluded the minister for economics.

Border Shelling, Fighting in Karabakh Reported

NC0102193594 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1800 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] The Azerbaijani Army units in Tauzskiy Rayon resumed shelling of border positions in Tavushskiy Rayon yesterday evening.

The Armenian Defense Ministry Press Service reported that tank, howitzer, and grenade fire was directed at Artzvaberd, Aygepar, and Chinari. The shelling lasted for 15 minutes. There were no casualties.

No serious incidents have taken place in the other border regions of Armenia since last night.

The Nagorno-Karabakh Republic Defense Army headquarters reported that no substantial changes took place on the war fronts last night and this morning. The Karabakh Army units successfully repulsed all attacks by the enemy in the northern region of Kelbadzharskiy Rayon. The Azerbaijani troops suffered substantial losses in men and material.

The Azerbaijani Army launched yet another offensive at the southeastern sector of the front this morning.

Only positional battles are taking place in the other sectors of the war front.

Accord Reached With Nakhichevan on Border Security

NC0102195294 Yerevan ARMENPRES International Service in Armenian 1446 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] Yerevan, 1 Feb (ARMENPRES)—A meeting of the plenipotentiary representatives of the Armenian Republic and Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic took place in Araratskiy Rayon. It was the continuation of the talks that started on 14 January. The aim of these talks is to stabilize the situation on the borders.

A joint statement was issued in which the sides agreed to tighten control over the armed formations all along the border and henceforth not allow any hostile action against each other, such as the shelling of each other's positions and the violation of borders.

Chief Border Commissar Gegam Harutyunyan, who was heading the Armenian delegation, told an ARMENPRES correspondent that the dialogue with Nakhichevan is taking place in an atmosphere of mutual understanding and that this inspires hope that there will be an end to incidents on the Armenian-Nakhichevan border.

Azerbaijan

President Calls on Armenia To End Conflict

LD0102203394 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1933 GMT 1 Feb 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Sevinj Abdullayeva and Viktor Schulman]

[Text] Baku February 1 TASS—Azerbaijan puts the fullest responsibility for the growing tensions in the zone of Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict on Armenia, says a statement of the presidential press service circulated here on Tuesday evening.

Armenia "will not give up attempts to expand the so-called "security zone" in Nagorno-Karabakh by occupying new Azerbaijani regions", the press service said.

"Within the framework of this annexationist policy, the military and political leadership of Armenia undertook an unsuccessful attempt at intervention into the Beilangan and Tertery districts of Azerbaijan last December," the press service said.

According to the statement, this action made Azerbaijan resort to defensive counter measures and resulted in numerous casualties and a new spiral in the armed confrontation between the two states.

On the other hand, the press service once again stated that Azerbaijan came out against the war and would insist on a peaceful settlement to the conflict based on "withdrawal of the Armenian forces from all occupied territories and respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-violation of Azerbaijan's borders".

In this connection, the Azerbaijani president calls on the Armenian leadership to give up the fruitless policy of armed conflict which brings ever increasing sacrifices and tribulations to the Armenian people, the press service said.

The president also calls on Armenians living in Nagorno-Karabakh who are citizens of the Republic of Azerbaijan to reject participating in military operations on the part of the armed forces of the Republic of Armenia and surrender arms, according to the statement.

He guarantees that as Azerbaijani citizens they will exercise their constitutional rights to a safe and peaceful future within the bounds of a single and indivisible Azerbaijan.

Russian Offer for Joint Defense Rejected

NC0102210194 Baku Azerbaycan Radio Televiziyasi Television Network in Azeri 1600 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Report on interview with Major General Mustafa Nesirov, chief adviser on border affairs at the National Security Ministry, by Sakit Ochaghly; place and date not given]

[Text] Talks and consultations are being held and concrete proposals are being put forward at the highest levels on the defense and inviolability of our borders.

[Begin recording] [Nesirov] Each state must defend its own borders, and borders should be defended by the border guards of a given state. We must defend our borders with our own border guards. We will undoubtedly achieve this.

[Ochaghly] Talks are being held on this subject. Are you taking part in these talks?

[Nesirov] The commander of the Russian border guards wanted us to defend the borders jointly. That is, Azerbaijan's border with Iran. We said at that time, and even earlier, and during the talks with Lieutenant-General (Mikhalayov) in Baku that we ourselves will defend our own borders. It will not be correct if we allow the Russian border guards to defend Azerbaijan's border with Iran jointly with us. It will mean the loss of sovereignty. We have a sovereign state and border guards. We must defend our own borders with our own border guards. Undoubtedly we will achieve this. [end recording]

Russian Envoy Returns After Failed Talks

NC0102222594 Baku TURAN in English 1616 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] Baku, February 1 (TURAN)—Special Russian Envoy, Vladimir Kazimirov, left for Moscow last night from Baku's Bina Airport.

Kazimirov, who recently travelled to Khankendi [Stepanakert] and Yerevan arrived in the late evening on January 30 to Baku with the Russian plan for regulating the Armenian-Azeri conflict.

An official from the Azeri Presidential Cabinet told TURAN that the plan proposed a withdrawal of Armenian forces from six occupied south-western regions of Azerbaijan and the stationing of buffer-forces all along the line of hostilities. The question about the fate of the two other occupied Azeri regions, Lachinskiy and Kelbadzharskiy, and the status of Nagorno-Karabakh, will be discussed at a later date. The first stage of implementation of the plan would be a 2-3 week long cease-fire which was scheduled to be signed on February 1.

However, Geydar Aliyev rejected the proposal and told Kazimirov yesterday that "we will discuss the question of a cease-fire only after the complete withdrawal of Armenian forces from the occupied Azeri territories." He also said, "Azerbaijan will not be humiliated by such cease-fire terms."

One Azeri diplomat said, "The regulation of the conflict can be discussed seriously only if the plan provides for a complete withdrawal of Armenian troops from all the occupied regions and the return of Azeris to the Shushinskiy Region of Nagorno-Karabakh. Under these conditions, Azerbaijan would guarantee the restoration of road travel between Nagorno-Karabakh with Armenia", one Azeri diplomat said.

The fact that Kazimirov left with an unagreed upon plan, postpones the settlement of the question for an indefinite period of time. In this connection, reports of the Russian media about today's scheduled meeting between Russian

Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev and the Foreign Ministers of Armenia and Azerbaijan, and with the representatives of the Armenian community of Nagorno- Karabakh are appear to be premature. Moreover, Azeri Foreign Minister Gasan Gasanov did not leave for Moscow. This morning he received the UK ambassador Thomas Young.

Attacking Armenian Units Forced To Retreat

NC0102205694 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 1700 GMT 1 Feb 94

["Texti of the Azerbaijani Ministry of Defense Press Service communique on 1 February]

[Text] The enemy tried several times to penetrate Azerbaijan's defenses in various parts of the front lines yesterday. All the enemy attacks were rebuffed. The units of the Armenian Armed Forces, which were involved in the attacks, were forced to retreat to their former positions.

Five Killed in Explosion at Baku Train Station

LD0202110794 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1039 GMT 2 Feb 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Savinj Abdullayeva and Viktor Shulman]

[Text] Baku February 2 TASS— Five people died in a midnight explosion which rocked the Baku railway terminal on Tuesday. Seven other people were injured and hospitalized in critical condition, after the explosion shattered tens of railway wagons.

The cause of the explosion was not immediately known. The train, in which one of the cars exploded when passengers were getting into it, arrived earlier from Kislovodsk, southern Russia. It was duly inspected in the local depot and put into service again because of the rolling stock shortage.

Competent sources close to the investigation of the accident do not rule out an act of subversion as the cause of the blast.

Georgia

Differences Seen on Rapprochement With Russia

PM0202093594 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Feb 94 First Edition pp 1,4

[Besik Urigashvili article: "Following Defeat in Abkhazia Georgia Expects a Miracle from Boris Yeltsin"]

[Text] Tbilisi—Eduard Shevardnadze has stated categorically that President Yeltsin's visit to Tbilisi is the most important event in the entire history of Russian-Georgian relations going back over 200 years. According to Shevardnadze, the president of a great neighboring friendly state is coming to independent Georgia, and anyone who thinks differently is divorced from real politics and real life. "We will not allow anyone to wreck this visit," the Georgian leader stressed.

The worried tone of Shevardnadze's statement is understandable—both the parliamentary and nonparliamentary opposition are taking a negative view of the visit and of Russia in general, primarily owing to Moscow's stance during the Abkhazian war. However, most of Georgia's inhabitants do see Russia as the sole guarantor of a stabilization of the extremely grave economic and political situation within Georgia itself.

There is an extremely simple explanation for this rapid metamorphosis in Georgian public thinking: The people have been enraged by poverty and rampant banditry. Hopelessness and lack of confidence in the future are making Joe Public look for a miracle. And Boris Yeltsin must appear as a miracle worker to a Georgian audience.

The reason for Yeltsin's visit to Georgia is to sign the long-awaited treaty on friendship and cooperation between the two countries. Georgia has already signed similar treaties with all its closest neighbors. The delay in signing the Russian-Georgian treaty is due primarily to the war in Abkhazia, during which, in Tbilisi's opinion, Russia has espoused an extremely equivocal position by generally backing the separatists. But Shevardnadze and his immediate entourage always tried to attribute this to the fact that a powerful war party was at work within the Russian political establishment. The reference being to the former Supreme Soviet and the former vice president [Rutskoy], who once promised to muster aircraft and bomb Tbilisi. Since they quit the political arena, people here have begun to think that the situation is propitious for Georgia.

A key question in the coming Russian-Georgian meeting will undoubtedly be the settlement of the conflict in Abkhazia. And the Georgian side's main irreducible demand is for the refugees, of whom there are over 200,000, to be brought back. In accordance with the talks held in Geneva, the first group of refugees is to return to Abkhazia 10 February. In the main they are residents of the border Galskiy Rayon.

Abkhazian leaders have voiced their opinion of Yeltsin's upcoming visit to Tbilisi. Sokrat Dzhindzholiya, one of Abkhazian leader Vladislav Ardzinba's closest comrades in arms, said that this visit means that Russia is giving Georgia carte blanche for military revenge. Dzhindzholiya gave assurances that the Russians have given the Georgian Army a large quantity of military hardware, including modern ground-attack aircraft and fighters. In the opinion of the Abkhazians, the delay in deploying Russian Armed Forces under UN auspices in the conflict zone is also an alarming factor. "Abkhazia has never trusted the United Nations, and now Russia too is losing our trust," Dzhindzholiya stressed.

The question of Georgia's joining the ruble zone will undoubtedly be broached during the talks in Tbilisi. At any rate the official press and television have long been preparing the public for this step. Strictly speaking, this propaganda softening-up process is directed not so much at ordinary mortals, who amid the soaring inflation of the local coupon have long been prepared for their government to take these steps, but at the political opposition,

which sees this as a loss of independence. "Understandably, if it joins the ruble zone Georgia will be unable to implement its own finance and credit policy and will be entirely dependent on the Russian Central Bank. Also understandably, Russia can have no economic grounds for allowing a country with such a ravaged economy as Georgia into its currency zone. So, the idea is purely political and pursues a single objective—to restore the former empire in one way or another," Revaz Shavishvili, chairman of the Georgian monitoring agency [kontrolnaya palata], said.

The shadow of the broken Soviet Union is increasingly alarming Georgian oppositionists. That is precisely the light in which the opposition views the Georgian leader's moves toward rapprochement.

The Georgian leader responds to the opposition's attacks with his customary confidence, but not without a dash of populism. Shevardnadze feels fairly confident since former Georgian president Zviad Gamsakhurdia quit the scene once and for all. He is aware that he has the outward support of a population exhausted by economic and political adversities for the policy of close rapprochement with Russia. In response to the countless accusations that he is promoting the revival of the empire in a new form, Shevardnadze said that his policy of rapprochement with Russia is designed to ensure that the empire is never reborn. Only political aesthetes can assess the novelty of these statements in Georgia today and, since they are few and far between, Shevardnadze is simply taken on trust.

Meanwhile preparations are well and truly under way in the Georgian capital to receive the eminent visitor. The "Green" party has decided to clear the garbage that has accumulated over several alarming months from the city's central streets. The police are temporarily removing the concrete slabs along the highway from the airport, and real Georgian wines and cognacs are being taken to the state dacha where the Russian president will be staying.

Abkhaz Liberation Union States Demands to Parliament

LD0102190494 Tbilisi IBERIA in Georgian 1600 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] Tbilisi, 1 Feb—According to IBERIA news agency, the first item on the agenda at today's session of the Georgian parliament was information by Deputy Boris Kakubava.

Boris Kakubava, who had been elected to the Georgian parliament by the population of the Abkhaz region, said that the Union of Liberation of Abkhazia, headed by him, did not wish to confront the current Georgian authorities. That was why the union was not planning protest rallies on the eve of the official visit to Georgia by the Russian President Boris Yeltsin; although, after Boris Yeltsin's departure these rallies would undoubtedly be held if Georgian authorities failed to meet the following demands worked out by the union:

a. By no means should Russian or any other country's armed formations be brought into the territory of the Abkhaz region.
b. Russian armed formations currently stationed in the Abkhaz region should leave the territory of the Georgian Republic.
c. The Russian-Georgian border on the river Psou should be restored.
d. Russia should admit her participation in the war against Georgia and repent for the crime.
e. Beginning of the negotiations with the Gudauta authorities should be considered as a serious mistake by the Georgian authorities, and a vote of no confidence should be passed in the entire Georgian delegation at the Geneva talks.
f. The status of Abkhazia within the composition of Georgia should be decided in the process of working out Georgia's new constitution.

Radio Reports 1 Feb Parliamentary Proceedings

LD0202111494 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 0300 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] The Georgian Parliament resumed work yesterday under the chairmanship of Parliament Speaker Vakhtang Goguadze.

In connection with the first issue on the agenda, the meeting was addressed by the chairman of the Abkhazia Liberation Organization, Boris Kakubava, who informed participants about his union's attitude towards the issue of Abkhazia, and read out the text of a resolution adopted by the union. On behalf of a group of deputies from Abkhazia, Boris Kakubava demanded that a delegation of refugees from Abkhazia meet Russian President Boris Yeltsin during his visit to Georgia.

After a short debate, the examination of the issue was postponed.

After a break, members of parliament once again began a discussion of a draft law on arms submitted by Mr. Givi Lominadze [chairman of the provisional Committee for Emergencies in Western Georgia]. As it was at earlier meetings, the debate on this issue was very sharp and it continued for the rest of the day. In the end, no decision was adopted on the above mentioned draft law and the meeting ended.

[Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian at 1400 GMT on 1 February carried a live relay of the parliamentary proceedings, which was intercepted in progress. A draft law on the manufacturing and possession of arms was put to the vote and adopted. However, after the vote some members of parliament challenged its results, claiming that the results included the votes of several deputies not present at the meeting, cast for them by their fellow MPs.]

South Ossetia Appeals to Yeltsin for Security Guarantees

LD0202110994 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1041 GMT 2 Feb 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Shanayev]

[Text] Vladikavkaz February 2 TASS—The South Ossetian parliament adopted today an appeal to the Russian president, asking him to "work out security guarantees of the Republic of South Ossetia, of its free and democratic development before signing the Russian-Georgian treaty."

Members of parliament adopted as well an appeal to the Federation Council and the State Duma of the Russian Federation, asking them to "refrain from the ratification of a full-scale treaty between Russia and Georgia until a complete settlement of Ossetian-Georgian relations and not to regard the republic of South Ossetia as part of the Republic of Georgia."

In its turn, the Information and Press Committee of South Ossetia circulated today a statement of the republican parliament, which pointed out that the signing of the Russian-Georgian treaty "while the problem of the status of South Ossetia has not yet been resolved, is direct violation of the previous four-party agreements. This infringement on the rights of the Ossetian people will inevitably lead to the escalation of violence in the Republic of South Ossetia and around it."

Estonia

Negotiators Meet With Russians for Talks

WS0102193694 Tallinn BNS in English 1632 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] Moscow, Feb 01, BNS—The Estonian and the Russian negotiators met today for another round of talks near Moscow.

On the agenda are the withdrawal of the Russian troops from Estonia, the social protection of Russian military pensioners living in Estonia, and other questions of bilateral relations.

Vasily Svirin, Russia's top negotiator, said earlier Russia will now present the detailed timetable for the troop withdrawal from January through August.

Svirin said the timetable contains the dates for the pullout of all units as well as the number of men serving in them. "We hope this gesture of good will inspire also Estonia to constructive action," the Russian diplomat said.

As reported earlier, Estonia accepted Russia's proposal to withdraw its troops from Estonia by Aug. 31, but insisted that Russia present a detailed schedule for the pullout.

Russian-Speaking Assembly Issues Statement Against Racism

WS0102153894 Tallinn BNS in English 1155 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] Tallinn, Feb 01, BNS—The Representative Assembly of Estonia's Russian-speaking Population proposes to arrange this year a forum of the country's democratic forces to mark the 50th anniversary of Estonia's liberation from fascist occupation.

The assembly suggests that the forum work out a program for joint action under the motto, "For healing the society, against nationalism, interethnic animosity and moral degradation."

"The seemingly eradicated fascism is again raising its head, sometimes under the guise of false liberalism, sometimes hiding behind patriotic slogans, and sometimes even quite openly," the assembly said in a statement adopted at its Jan. 29 session. "Not to notice it is dangerous; not to take action, criminal."

The assembly calls on all Estonian social and political forces to aim their efforts at stabilizing the society, improving interethnic relations and "guaranteeing human rights in reality."

Latvia

Prime Minister Interviewed on Return From Davos Forum

LD0102210494 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 1400 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] Prime Minister Valdis Birkavs returned today from the World Economic Forum in Davos. In the following recording, you will hear an assessment of this forum given by Birkavs at the airport right after he returned to Riga:

[Begin Birkavs recording] Defining the Baltic lands in Europe and the world...in fact, one must conclude that what the previous economic forums defined—declaring in 1973 that they were going from fixed to floating exchange rates in the world—that this is the end of the economic consequences of World War II. And in 1989, when the Singing Revolution and all other kinds of revolutions began in Europe, they declared that that was the end of the political consequences of World War II. Neither the economic nor the political consequences of World War II have, in fact, been liquidated, and, in this sense, the Baltic question is one of those consequences of World War II that have not been liquidated. This was very significant—especially because it was not a Baltic seminar, but a Baltic-Nordic one, and this is where we were linked.

The question of Baltic unity: It was a fairly fundamental emphasis to demonstrate our unity even though Russia was trying to introduce a certain dissonance, for which perhaps there is some small basis. And there was talk from the rostrum that only two countries, Estonia and Latvia, have developed in a direction that distances them ever further from Russia. Lithuania is bound by its policies more to Russia. At the World Economic Forum, nearly all the conversations ended, one way or another, with Russia. The world is concerned about Russia's future because the high inflation [words indistinct] and the view that the ultimate result will lead to some sort of cataclysm, the prognosis for which at the moment is relatively difficult. In practice, we have felt the clearly expressed view from everywhere that we have gone quite far. Four countries have distanced themselvesa from Russia more: the Czech Republic, Hungary, Estonia, and Latvia. Estonia is being described as the locomotive of central and eastern Europe, with the most rapid development.

Saeima Committee Drafts National Security Law

WS0102205694 Tallinn BNS in English 1853 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] Riga, Jan 01, BNS—The Latvian Saeima (parliament) Defense and Interior Affairs Committee prepared a national security bill to determine the notion of national security and its implementation, said committee head Ivars Silars.

The law would outline the powers of the National Security Council and the government in managing security-related institutions.

The projected Satversme (Constitution) Protection Bureau, the Defense Ministry's military counterintelligence service, the Home Guards informative service and the Interior Ministry's security police are the basic institutions to ensure the national security, under the bill.

The laws on the Satversme Protection Bureau and the national security could become a foundation for the country's all-round security doctrine, the committee said.

The Defense Committee's bill is designed as an alternative to the Cabinet's counterintelligence plan.

Silars claims that the bill is ready for acceptance in the first reading in the Saeima plenary session.

The committee meeting was attended by Defense Minister Valdis Pavlovskis, Interior Minister Girts Kristovskis and related security officers.

Lithuania

President: Army Needs Rearming To Meet NATO Standards

LD0102220894 Vilnius Radio Vilnius in English 2000 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] The rearmament of the Lithuanian Army in accordance with NATO standards can be hardly achieved in the near future. Having signed the basic program of the Partnership for Peace last week, Lithuanian President Algirdas Brazauskas said the Lithuanian Army would have to be rearmed, so that it could meet NATO standards.

Lithuanian Military Chief of Staff Stasys Knezys told the Baltic News Service that the prospects of standardization in the army were unclear and that no concrete steps had been taken in this respect. According to Mr. Knezys, Lithuania should first of all decide what quality and quantity of armaments and defense systems it needs.

Meanwhile NATO officials believe that rearmament should be started with replacing communication systems and not weapons. At present Lithuania is using 10 various (?such) systems, and their adaptation to NATO standards would require huge funds, which the national defense system doesn't possess.

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 352
MERRIFIELD, VA.

This is a U.S. Government publication. Its contents in no way represent the policies, views, or attitudes of the U.S. Government. Users of this publication may cite FBIS or JPRS provided they do so in a manner clearly identifying them as the secondary source.

Foreign Broadcast Information Service (FBIS) and Joint Publications Research Service (JPRS) publications contain political, military, economic, environmental, and sociological news, commentary, and other information, as well as scientific and technical data and reports. All information has been obtained from foreign radio and television broadcasts, news agency transmissions, newspapers, books, and periodicals. Items generally are processed from the first or best available sources. It should not be inferred that they have been disseminated only in the medium, in the language, or to the area indicated. Items from foreign language sources are translated; those from English-language sources are transcribed. Except for excluding certain diacritics, FBIS renders personal names and place-names in accordance with the romanization systems approved for U.S. Government publications by the U.S. Board of Geographic Names.

Headlines, editorial reports, and material enclosed in brackets [ ] are supplied by FBIS/JPRS. Processing indicators such as [Text] or [Excerpts] in the first line of each item indicate how the information was processed from the original. Unfamiliar names rendered phonetically are enclosed in parentheses. Words or names preceded by a question mark and enclosed in parentheses were not clear from the original source but have been supplied as appropriate to the context. Other unattributed parenthetical notes within the body of an item originate with the source. Times within items are as given by the source. Passages in boldface or italics are as published.

SUBSCRIPTION/PROCUREMENT INFORMATION

The FBIS DAILY REPORT contains current news and information and is published Monday through Friday in eight volumes: China, East Europe, Central Eurasia, East Asia, Near East & South Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America, and West Europe. Supplements to the DAILY REPORTs may also be available periodically and will be distributed to regular DAILY REPORT subscribers. JPRS publications, which include approximately 50 regional, worldwide, and topical reports, generally contain less time-sensitive information and are published periodically.

Current DAILY REPORTs and JPRS publications are listed in *Government Reports Announcements* issued semimonthly by the National Technical Information Service (NTIS), 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, Virginia 22161 and the *Monthly Catalog of U.S. Government Publications* issued by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

The public may subscribe to either hardcover or microfiche versions of the DAILY REPORTs and JPRS publications through NTIS at the above address or by calling (703) 487-4630. Subscription rates will be provided by NTIS upon request. Subscriptions are available outside the United States from NTIS or appointed foreign dealers. New subscribers should expect a 30-day delay in receipt of the first issue.

U.S. Government offices may obtain subscriptions to the DAILY REPORTs or JPRS publications (hardcover or microfiche) at no charge through their sponsoring organizations. For additional information or assistance, call FBIS, (202) 338-6735,or write to P.O. Box 2604, Washington, D.C. 20013. Department of Defense consumers are required to submit requests through appropriate command validation channels to DIA, RTS-2C, Washington, D.C. 20301. (Telephone: (202) 373-3771, Autovon: 243-3771.)

Back issues or single copies of the DAILY REPORTs and JPRS publications are not available. Both the DAILY REPORTs and the JPRS publications are on file for public reference at the Library of Congress and at many Federal Depository Libraries. Reference copies may also be seen at many public and university libraries throughout the United States.